JOHN BULL

TWOPENCE

Get your Christmas Wine in early

make a POINT of it!

"This is the POINT about Christmas" says Santa

Here's real good wine for Christmas that every one can afford to give and that everybody will be glad to get. There are no disappointments with POINT! At 2/- the full-sized bottle these POINT wines have a quality and character you won't find elsewhere at anything near the price. That's because they're made with the finest imported grape juice by the leading Winery in this country with a reputation for good wine for over 30 years. Here's all the best this Christmas—and the best means POINT every time!

2/- per bottle

POINT BRAND Wines

RED POINT Rich, fruity, ruby wine of Port character; mellow and mature. Look for the RED POINT label.

WHITE POINT White sweet wine of Port character; delightful flavour & bouquet. Look for the WHITE POINT label.

AMBER POINT British Sherry of supreme quality and palate. Look for the AMBER POINT label.

GREEN POINT (2/6 a bottle). Full strength Ginger wine, warming and comforting. In bottle-size only.

Oval Quart 2/9 (Bottle 2d. extra returnable); ½ Bottle 1/3; ¼ Flask 8d.

Produced and Bottled by VINE PRODUCTS LTD., KINGSTON, SURREY.

Vine Products Ltd. are the only British Wine producers holding the Gold Sealed Certificate of the Royal Institute of Public Health & Hygiene

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JOKES, TRICKS, GAMES AND MAGIC

FUN CERTIFICATES

A REAL LAUGHTER MAKER. There are doubtless some of your acquaintances who have qualified for free membership of one of these orders and here is the opportunity of providing them with an appropriate souvenir, with their name written in the space provided, ready for framing, size 11in. by 8¼in., printed in two colours. In 6 styles. Liar's Licence, Back Seat Drivers, Nosey Parkers, Gold-digger's Certificate, Flirt's Certificate and Freedom of the City. Postage 1½d. Set of 6 for 2/6. Price, each **6d.**

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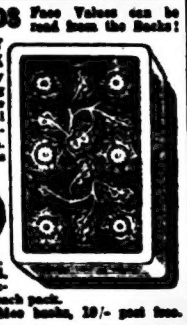
Face Values can be read from the Backs!

OUR LATEST "ROCKER" PACK Looks the same as any ordinary pack of playing cards, the backs are marked by a wonderful system of secret marking that defy detection. The secret is in the backs of the cards. Per Pack



THEY ALMOST TALK TO YOU **5/-**

Both the suits Post 3d. and numbers are indicated. Fully illustrated instructions are enclosed with each pack. Two packs, red and blue backs, 10/- post free.

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SCIENTIFICALLY CONSTRUCTED. FORETELLS CHANGE OF WEATHER. The old-fashioned weather house with the familiar Derby and Joan figures. When the air is moist and rain imminent, the man comes out, when fine weather is to be expected he retires to the house and out comes the lady. Strongly built and attractive and fitted with reliable thermometer. In four sizes. A suitable Christmas Gift. 1/6, 2/6, 3/6 & 5/-. Postage 6d.

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IN 4 MERRY BOTTLES A most novel Xmas Gift. In miniature bottles, exact models of the real thing. APITIV SHERRY, FINE OLD SCOTCH WHISKY, FINE DOURO PORT, & GUINNESS STOUT. Each bottle is filled with select perfume. Send a case to your friends. Ideal to carry on person. Ideal for Dance Prizes, Xmas Trees, Lucky Dips and Roundabouts. Per case of 4 (postage 4d.) **2/-** **2/-** PER CASE

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will delight the heart of every boy.

Many pleasant hours can be spent constructing these two famous ships, H.M.S. "Queen Mary." Overall length of model 20½ ins. A scale model of England's most famous liner, complete with plans and all the necessary materials. Post 6d. Price **7/6**

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15-in. wing span flying model of the R.A.F. Tractor Plane Miles Magister. Kit complete. Post 2d. Price **9d.**

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Guillemot. A scale model of the famous aerobatic plane, used exclusively by Major Al Williams of the United States. 17-in. wing span. Post 3d. Price **3/6**

Extra large size 7/6

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A really well made Melodeon with finest quality steel brass reeds, white mounted keys. 10 keys and 2 basses. You can play all kinds of music on the melodeon from waltzes to Irish Jigs, and they are so easy to play. Price **15/-** Post and Packing 1/-.

8 sets of reeds, size 9 x 11 ins. Price 35/-. Postage and Packing 1/-.

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Quite easy to do, but very mystifying. Absolutely Astounding Effect.

Since Chung Ling Soo originated this astounding trick most of us have seen it performed on the stage by various magicians and have wondered how the trick was done. Our readers and amateur conjurers will be glad to avail themselves of this opportunity to add it to their collection. The secret of the trick is probably one of the best in magic. Full instructions sent. Postage 2d.

Price **2/6**

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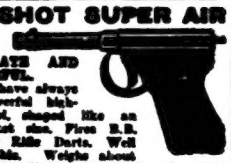
Your Audience Will Gasp with Astonishment.

Mystify and entertain your friends with this new and sensational Magic Trick. Merely hold the wand lightly in the palm of the hand, and at your word of command it will RISE slowly and continue rising until it reaches to the very tip of the wand. No fear of failure, quite easy to do. Can be performed indefinitely. Full instructions sent. A Rosy Magic Trick. Price, post paid **2/6**

SINGLE-SHOT SUPER AIR PISTOL



VERY ACCURATE AND POWERFUL. Just what you have always wanted. A powerful high-grade Air Pistol, shaped like an automatic, pocket size. Fires B.B. Steps and Air Rifle Darts. Well made and durable. Weighs about 10 ounces. Better than an Air Rifle. A packet of Steps, Darts, and Target given Free with pistol. NOT SOLD TO MINORS. Price **6/-** Postage 9d.

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With the aid of the GRAPHOSCOPE anyone can learn easily how to draw freehand perfectly. The GRAPHOSCOPE reflects the picture or model on to the drawing book or sheet and the artist traces over the reflection. The result is an exact copy. Thus the artist gains valuable knowledge of the important rudiments of sketching, and after a while finds himself able to draw well freehand. A really valuable and efficient educational article. Complete with new improved eyepiece, pad, pencil, picture models, and illustrated instructions. Postage 6d. **2/11**

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You Can Learn to Play It in 5 Minutes.

No Lessons—No Hard Practice—Easy as A B C.

This astounding musical instrument possesses a beautiful resonant ringing tone with a compass of two chromatic octaves. Just study the illustrated tutor which is supplied with each instrument, and in five minutes you will be able to play any tune you like with the ease of an accomplished Guitarist. No knowledge of music required. Why not form a Guitarina Hawaiian Guitar Band and give a show at the next party? TUTOR FREE.

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A rod of steel can be made to penetrate a sheet of glass without breaking or cracking the surface. Full instructions sent. Requires no skill. Postage 2d. Price **2/6**

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Edgar Bergen's Original Ventriloquial Figure.

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This famous Dummy, with your help, can be a very entertaining little chap. He can sing, recite, tell funny stories, and generally mislead your friends in the audience with complete verisimilitude. Expressively dressed in correct full dress. Top hat, white tie, tails, etc. Moving mouth, and with useful instructions on how to throw your voice. Size 20 ins. high. Post 6d. Price **10/6**

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A really astonishing trick. You have seen it done many times by professional conjurers. Now you can mystify your friends in the same way. You just hold the handkerchief in one hand, run the other down it, and as you do so your audience see it change from red to green. Go through the actions again and it will change once more to red. Easily performed yet most effective. Postage 2d. Price **1/6**

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Materials exactly the same as used by Film Stars. Contains everything you want—Grease Paint, Nose Putty, Burnt Cork, Cream, Spirit Gum, Linen, Hair, Moustache, etc. WARRANTED PERFECTLY HARMLESS TO THE SKIN. 6d., 1/-, 2/6, 5/-, 7/6. Postage 3d. and 6d.

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Made in durable cast iron. Slide opening automatic magazine and loading chamber. Ingenious spring device flips open for loading merely by pressing button. Cylinder revolves with each shot. 6 ins. long. Just like a real army revolver. Postage 3d. Price **2/-**

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This instrument is beautifully finished. Holds itself in the eye as magnifying glasses used by jewellers, etc. Placed to the eye, you can see what is taking place back of you and in front of you at the same time. You can have lots of fun with this instrument. Postage 2d. Price **9d.**

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Get a wad of these notes and appear prosperous. The money is on good paper. By flashing a roll of these notes at the proper time you will be surprised at the result!

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Piano or organ—no teacher needed, surprisingly simple system. Persons having neglected their musical education need not despair, for with the aid of this Vamping Chart—placed upright over the keys—you can at once vamp to thousands of songs, ballads, waltzes, jazz. No knowledge of music required. After using it a few times you can dispense with it entirely. Postage 2d. **6d.**

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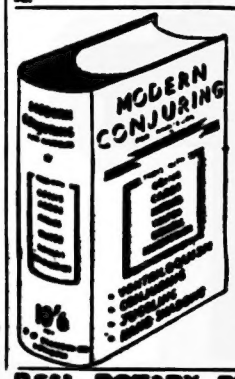

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A mine of magic and amusement. Anyone can easily follow the working of the various tricks, so plainly given that even a child with little practice can do them. The tricks range from those of the simplest kind to the rather more advanced type. Every branch of conjuring is embraced. Tricks with Cards, Water, Coins, Handkerchiefs, Paper Magic, Palming, Vanishing, Indoor Games for Parties, etc., and also there are sections on Thought Reading, Ventriloquism, Juggling, Hand Shadows, etc. For the Amateur Magician it is a perfect treasure of golden opportunities. Price, Post Paid **10/6**

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A unique and novel musical instrument that is played with nose and mouth combined. Produces very sweet music that somewhat resembles a flute. Anyone can play it. Nothing to learn. No knowledge of music required. Price **1/-**

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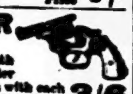
With Pearl Handle.



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200 "	2/-
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500 "	3/6
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Post 2d. extra on any quantity. We pay any expense. 5 per cent. discount on 5 dozen lots. 10 per cent. discount on dozen lots.

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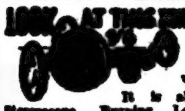

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All British. Ideal lightweight all-British set for the Cubmaster. Complete with Dynamo, Headlamp and Rearlamp. Headlamp 3½ ins. front, with silvered reflector and nickel-plated rim. Gives very efficient beam. Dynamo of the latest construction, made with retaining magnet, is perfectly silent and can be fitted to front or rear wheel. This dynamo can be switched on or off by the small lever, and is made with lug, which ensures that the dynamo can be set exactly to the right angle. Postage 9d. Price **10/-**

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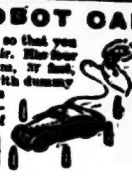

With extended steering wheel so that you can guide it from your armchair. Has four gears: (1) slow, (2) medium, (3) fast, (4) racing. Complete with dummy pedestrians and instructions for playing numerous interesting games. The best toy of the year. Has real rubber tyres. Post 6d. Price **3/11**

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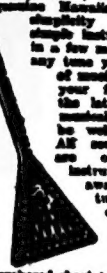

NOT A TOY. TUTOR FREE. The notes are numbered on the fingerboard and with the numbered chart (sent) you can play a tune right away.

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THE 3 MYSTERY BELLS

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into a trunk, under the bed, or anywhere. Lots of fun fooling teacher, policeman or friends.

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A little instrument fits in the mouth out of sight, used with above for Bird Calls, etc. Anyone can use it. Never fails. A full course book on Ventriloquism, together with the Ventrilo. Postage 2d. All for **6d.**

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The most amazing little machine ever invented. Place a blank sheet of paper between the rollers, turn the handle and out comes a genuine 10/- or £1 note. Postage 2d. Price **1/-**

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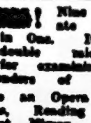

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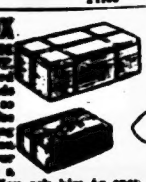

A MOST AMAZING TRICK JUST OUT! A sixpence is borrowed from one of your friends and marked by him so that he can recognise it for certain. Taking the coin from him you put your hand in your pocket and produce a trusty bound box. You ask him to open it and inside it he finds a matchbox similarly bound; inside that is a small bag, tightly sealed at the neck. And when he opens that his coin is inside! The trick is completely mystifying. Full instructions sent. Postage 2d. Price **1/-**

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Just an ordinary-looking piece of toilet soap, but when your friend washes his face he is all black. A great joke. Postage 2d. **6d.**

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Solid Oak frame. Velvet cord cushions any colour. Fat. quing seats. Call and inspect or send for Cat. J. of bargains in upholstered chairs, bed, and dining-room suites. Chesterfields, reg. letters and crossed P.O.s to:—

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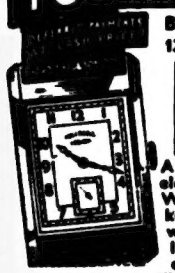

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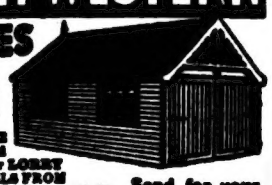

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Comb which

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at 9d. each, post 3d., a price that you cannot afford to miss. No matter whether short or long—simply comb your hair to produce beautiful natural waves. No curling irons, bother or mess. Will save you pounds in hairdressers' bills. The 48 specially shaped teeth give truly amazing results. Your money willingly refunded if not delighted. Send P.O. 1/- at once (stamps not accepted).

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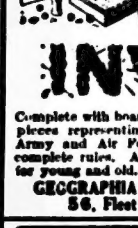
GRAND GAME for XMAS

Invented by the famous Thriller writer DENNIS WHEATLEY



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Complete with board about 24" x 24", 160 pieces representing forces of the Navy, Army and Air Force, dice, shaker and complete rules. A thrilling battle of wits for young and old. *(Postage 6d. extra.)*

7/6 Do Luxe set 12/6

GEOGRAPHIA Ltd. (Dept. J.B.), 56, Fleet Street, E.C.4.

CUCKOO CLOCKS

GENUINE BLACK FOREST FULL STRIKING

Bird bows and cuckoos the time every quarter of an hour with clear voice. Ornamental case carved in woodland design. Solid brass keyless movement with adjustable pendulum. Giving accuracy for years without attention. Complete with chain, weight, pendulum, etc. ready to hang on wall for long service. Limited number only at 3/11, post and boxing 1/-.

BANKRUPT STOCK OF 800 ONLY TO CLEAR 3/11 POST & PACKING 1/-

Avoid disappointment by sending P.O. 4/11 at once.

MAIL PRODUCTIONS, Ltd. (Dept. J.B.C.25), 69/91, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1

AUTOMATIC LIGHTER • CIGARETTE CASE

49

An essential Combination sought by smokers for years. Delivers cigarettes and a light in one single-handed operation as you remove the case and press the levers simultaneously. Flatly made to hold 12 cigarettes and to fit the waistcoat pocket. Handsomely finished in chrome with engine-turned surface. Usually 21/-, but limited stock offered at special sale price of 4/9, post, etc., 3d. extra. Send at once to—

MAIL PRODUCTIONS, LIMITED (Dept. J.B.L.C.2.), 69/91, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

Have your own cinema! with this Real Action MOVIE PROJECTOR 2/11

9.5 PATHE FILMS

Shows fine clear moving pictures, such as Popeye the Sailor, Buck Rogers, Betty Boop, Felix the Kat, etc., etc. Non-inflammable. No electric mains required. Absolutely self-contained. Complete with film, batteries, screen and full instructions. Enormous purchase from the Hollywood Cinematograph Manufacturers, these Splendid projectors are offered at amazing price of only 2/11, post and packing 7d. Extra films 9d. each.

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FAMOUS PIANO ACCORDIONS SAVE POUNDS

SELLING OFF! Entire stock must be cleared immediately! Huge reductions! Write for full lists!

Brand new 1939 models with 2 years' Guarantee. CRUCIANELLI 34 piano, 26 bass (listed £10.10) £5.10.0! 9/2 mthly. CRUCIANELLI 74 piano, 80 bass (listed £12.10) £7.0.0! 11/8 mthly. SOPRANI 34 piano, 80 bass, 3 voice, coupler (listed £15.0) £8.15.0! 10/2 mthly. BERTINI 41 piano, 120 bass, 4 voice, coupler (listed £24.0) £10.10.0! 12/2 mthly. CRUCIANELLI 41 Piano, 120 bass, 4 voice, coupler, curved keyboard (listed £28) £12.10.0! 14/5 mthly. BOCCHERINI "Grand" 41 piano, 120 bass, 4 voice, 3 couplers (listed £32.10) £14.0.0! 15/2 mthly.

FRANCIS (J.B.3), 39 39a, ESSEX-RD., LONDON, N.1.

FINAL CLEARANCE OFFER U.S.A. DIAL TYPEWRITERS

AT LAST HERE IS A TYPEWRITER THAT WE CAN ALL AFFORD TO OBTAIN.

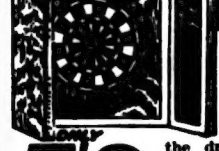
Standard Typewriters are beyond the ordinary purse, but we are offering the famous model which will enable you to type your own letters neatly and without previous experience owing to the special revolving disc. Fitted with spacer, release catch, double rollers and paper controller. Completely automatic action. Finished in black Japan, lined in gold and red.

REDUCED PRICE 7/11

Reduced price to clear 7/11. Post and Packing 1/- extra.

MAIL PRODUCTIONS, LTD. (Desk J.B.T.W.3), 69/91, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

CABINET DART BOARD



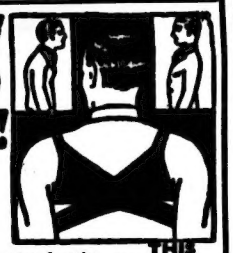
ONLY 5/9 Post 1/-

Will not warp, does not require damping.

DARTS DARTS DARTS! This 18-in. Cabinet Dartboard enables you to enjoy your favourite game in the comfort of the drawing-room. Regulation numbers and divisions mounted on super double board wall cabinet size 22 in. x 22 in. giving adequate protection to wall. The supply is limited, and your money will be refunded immediately if dissatisfied.

MAIL PRODUCTIONS, LTD. (Dept. J.B.D.B 2) 69/91, New Oxford St., London, W.C.1. Phone Tem. 7063.

NO MORE ROUND SHOULDERS!



Stop that slovenly stooping—look fit and be fit. Every man and woman with a tendency to round shoulders should get this Model Bracer, made of genuine surgical corselière material containing no rubber at the special reduced price of 1/9, post 4d. Adds two inches to your height, keeps the chest expanded and encourages deep healthy breathing. Quite inconspicuous and comfortable to wear. Highly recommended by physical training instructors and health culture experts. Send P.O. 2/1 now to—

THIS MODEL NOW REDUCED TO 1/9 POST 4d

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2/6 DOWN

Balance of Cash Price of 35/- in 13 fortnightly payments of 2/6

Ladies GUARANTEED INGERSOLL Rolled Gold Wrist Watch

Here's the dainty, distinguished little watch you've always wanted—an accurate timekeeper (like all INGERSOLLS), with jewelled lever movement, in Rolled-Gold case fitted with elegant expanding Rolled-Gold bracelet. IT'S YOURS, with a beautifully illustrated catalogue, for only 2/6 down and carries the INGERSOLL GUARANTEE. Your money refunded in full after 7 days' trial if not entirely satisfied.

A & V LTD

DEPT. G2, 69, NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C.1

BUY FOR XMAS FROM YOUR ARMCHAIR

There are many other bargain offers on page 35. Be sure to order at once to avoid disappointment and buy with confidence, for all offers are covered by the "JOHN BULL" Guarantee of satisfaction or money back.

"OK" British BARGAIN BALE

20/- Complete Bale. Carr. Paid. Cash or C.O.D.

Wonderful 30/- Value for 20/- to "John Bull" readers. Read the Guaranteed Contents:—

1 Superior Sateen or Art. Silk Wadded Down Quilt, full 6 x 5 ft. size. 2 Heavy Twill Sheets 80 x 60, for hard wear. 2 Heavy Yorkshire White Raised Blankets, full size 80 x 60. 1 Heavy Coloured Striped Blanket, 54 x 75. 1 Splendid Alhambra or Honeycomb Quilt, 90 x 70 (White or Coloured) 1 White Damask Tablecloth, 52 x 52, coloured borders, *Gold, Blue, Pink.* 1 Ladies' Full Size Overall, 2 White Pillow Cases, coloured embroidery, *Pink, Blue, Gold,* 29 x 19.

Illus. Bargain Catalogue of Carpets, Bedding, etc., post free.

V. HODGSON & SONS (J.B.), Woodsley Road, LEEDS.

MODERN BABY-CLOTHES SENSATIONAL OFFER

ONLY 30/-

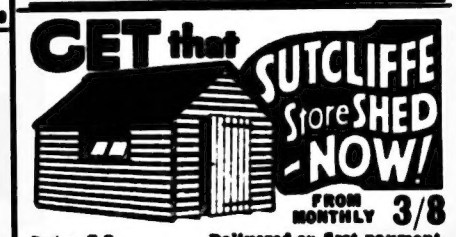
Expectant Mothers obtain this HANDSOME 75 GARMENT LAYETTE. Complete requirements, everything ready for immediate use. WOOLLY SHORTIES or MODERN HOME-MADE GOWNS, Winter or Summer wear. LAWN or WOOL FROCKS, CREPE, ROSE or WOOL SET, WINCEY or LAWN NIGHTIES. Full-size CREPE SHAWL, WOOL VESTS, SUITS, COATS, BOOTEES, OVERALLS, PILCHERS, BACK FLANNELS, GAUZE or TURK NAPS, etc.

SEND 2/- FOR PARCEL ON APPROVAL Bal. Cash or Terms

Mrs. J.B. HOWARD, 66, Dover Rd., Portsmouth.

Extract from one of 7,000 testimonials:—"Many thanks for such a beautiful layette. With such cosy woollies my baby will be comfy and warm, however cold the weather."

GET that SUTCLIFFE Store SHED -NOW!



FROM MONTHLY 3/8

Design S.S. Delivered on first payment.

For storing Tools, Garden Implements, Cycles. Built in 6 strong, perfect fitting sections, easily the best value. Carriage paid. Roofing Felt included free. Floors extra. Small Sizes from 25/-.	Long.	Wide.	High.	Cash or 12 pts.
	6ft.	4ft.	6½ft.	£2 0 0 — 3 8
	7ft.	6ft.	6½ft.	£3 8 0 — 5 6
	10ft.	7ft.	6½ft.	£4 5 0 — 7 10
	12ft.	8ft.	7ft.	£5 10 0 — 10 2

Send for Free Catalogue. Garages 77/6, Greenhouses 57/6, Aviaries 40/-, Workshops 84, Poultry Cabins 28/-. Fencing 3/- per yd. Kennels 27/-. Asbestos Garages £3. 5s, Bungalows £22. 5s, etc.

F. & H. Sutcliffe, Ltd., 82, Wood Top, Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire. London Showrooms-40-42 Oxford Street, W.1

GENUINE SURPLUS AIRMAN'S GAUNTLETS 2/3 POST 6d

Warm, fleece-lined. Solid leather glove with genuine waterproof gauntlet. Very smart design. Perfect fitting. Warm, supple and certainly smart. 500 pairs only, all sizes. To clear 2/3, postage, etc., 6d.

Absolutely unrepeatable after present stocks are exhausted. Send to-day. Your money willingly refunded if not completely satisfied.

MAIL PRODUCTIONS LTD. (Dept.J.B.A.6.6), 69/91, New Oxford St., London, W.C.1

3/6 POST 1/-

GENUINE SURPLUS OFFER

MILITARY CUT Proofed COATS FINAL CLEARANCE

Strictly limited number at this price. Cut Military pattern with full belt, generous storm collar. Grey or Fawn coloured stormproof material, Indiana, proofing and cowl shoulders, self-lined, adjustable sleeveband to keep out wind. Ideal for Flying, Motoring or town wear. Exceptionally smart. A coat to keep out the cold. All brand new and perfect. Chest measurement: 34 in. 3/6; 36 & 38 in. 4/6; 40 in. 5/6; 42 & 44 in. 6/6. Postage and packing 1/- extra. Buttons can be adjusted 3 in. if required. Proofing guaranteed 2 years.

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PARK DRIVE

for pleasure!

60 FOR 2/- PLAIN OR CORK TIP

6, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2
Telephone: TEMPLE BAR 2468
THURSDAY, for week ending
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1938

STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER

Go

ONLY one more w
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Nation's biggest
making. Only
to lay in the suppli
presents, to hang up th
Christmas, remember
great Christian festiv
season of rejoicing, bu
trade event.

Spend for Work

One man's jam is ano
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people's necessities.

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Getting Togethe

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of Christmas. We've
thankful for that. An
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Organised by the C
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Lonely Youth

Get together not
but all the year roun
community centres.

93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.
Telephone: Temple Bar 2468.
Thursday, for week ending
Saturday, December 17, 1938.

John Bull

STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER

Good Will at Home—Now Good Will Abroad

ONLY one more week to Christmas! One more week to the Nation's biggest annual merry-making. Only a week in which to lay in the supplies, to buy the presents, to hang up the decorations!

Christmas, remember, is not only a great Christian festival, not only a season of rejoicing, but also a great trade event.

Spend for Work

One man's jam is another man's bread and butter. When many of us are spending next week for our own pleasure, we'll also be spending for other people's necessities.

A good Christmas may mean for traders the difference between a good or bad year.

Christmas is the shopkeeper's annual harvest: and depending on what the shopkeeper garners are the thousands who work for him, and the thousands more who make, transport and distribute what he sells.

So when you spend next week, it will mean enjoyment for you and employment for others.

Getting Together

Get the Christmas spirit! It's been a difficult year. No use denying that. But look on the bright side.

Peace and good will! That's the spirit of Christmas. We've got peace. Be thankful for that. And there are signs of good will.

Europe's big men got together at Munich. They're getting together again. Ribbentrop signs peace pact in Paris. Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Halifax to see Mussolini in the New Year.

Our Share

Good will doesn't depend on us alone. But see that we offer our share. See, too, that we reciprocate when others offer it to us. Christmas is common to all European nations. Let's share the Christmas spirit as well.

As it's already shared between Britain and the United States. Good will between these two great Anglo-Saxon communities has grown steadily with time, and never stronger than now.

Don't Talk Trouble

Take the advice of Mr. Joseph Kennedy, America's Ambassador to London. Don't talk ourselves into thinking that things are worse than they are. Otherwise they may become so. Trouble didn't start this year. It won't end next year. But let's begin now to knock it on the head.

Here's a Hand

Here's the Christmas spirit in practice! A Christmas Day party for lonely girls in London. Boy friends invited, too.

Organised by the Central Council for the Social Welfare of Women and Girls in London. A Yuletide hand of friendship for otherwise solitary youngsters from South Wales, the North of England, Scotland and Ireland.

Lonely Youth

Get together not only at Christmas, but all the year round. Establish more community centres.

Shopping means enjoyment for her, employment for others

Britain's population is on the move. Since 1919 we've built 3,800,000 new houses. One in every four families affected by this stupendous general post.

Old ties broken: thousands of families on new housing estates with little corporate life. Youngsters with nowhere to go in the evenings.

Meet and Be Merry

Most new estates are better than the old slums. They're cleaner, healthier, handsomer. All the foundations of happiness. But are the people happier?

They should be. Show them the way to get together, to make new friendships. Then they will be happier.

This is the age of the dormitory suburb. Inhabitants of the same neighbourhood must often work apart. But give them the chance to play together.

Be United

Get together for recreation. Get together for business, too! Support your trade union. If you don't belong to one, join now.

Note President Roosevelt's tribute to Mr. William Green, President of America's mighty Federation of Labour. Improvements in labour conditions and pay during the present generation are largely due to organised labour.

Collective bargaining is one of the most useful services for fair and constructive human relations! So says Mr. Roosevelt.

The Open Road

Hurrah for the open road. And open it's going to stay—at least, for the present. No Bill yet to enforce cyclists off the highway. So says Mr. Burgin, Minister of Transport.

That's his contribution to the new cycling controversy. Spokesman of the Cyclist Touring Club suggests marking off a cyclists' lane on all new or reconstructed roads where wide enough.

Mr. Burgin Admits

But the International Road Congress has turned this down. So has Mr. Burgin. Separate tracks are his solution. But no compulsion to use them, he declares, until they're of adequate length and width and properly surfaced. That's an important admission, Mr. Burgin.

And we hope you'll impress the moral of it on Chancellor Simon. Our roads are nowhere near safe enough yet: and, until they are, no cuts in road spending!

"Safety Last"

Keep children off the roads! That's the Safety First cry. In Wiltshire, however, they're sometimes forced upon them.

Reason: schools in some cases lack playgrounds, so physical jerks must be done on the roads. Other schools have unsurfaced playgrounds. So children must drill in mud in winter and in clouds of dust in summer.

Be Warned, Sir John

"Fitness wins," Government posters tell us. But our rulers are giving it a big handicap in Wiltshire.

Here's another lesson for Mr. Chancellor. "Cut school building costs," cried Tory M.P.s lately. Do nothing of the kind, Sir John Simon. Put health and safety first!

Parks or Potatoes?

But which should come first in health—allotments that provide food and exercise, or parks that allow pleasure and exercise?

The L.C.C. wants to extend a Woolwich park and have ordered allotment-holders to quit.

The latter complain that this will hit Arsenal workers and many old-age pensioners, that 1,143 plots have been seized from the district in the past five years, and that, anyhow, there are already twenty-two parks within a radius of three miles.

Spare the Diggers

Moreover, they add, the nearest available land for allotments entails a journey of three-quarters of an hour and 2s. 8d. in fares per week, which the old folk cannot afford.

Well, what's your verdict? Bigger park or reprieve for the food growers?

In the circumstances, our vote goes for the reprieve. L.C.C., please note.

Moving Fast

But in one direction, at any rate, the new crusade for health is moving fast.

An increasing number of grants towards training schemes is being made each month under the National Fitness Campaign. Returns show that the results already achieved have outstripped expectations.

In the Spring an intensive publicity push will cover the whole country.

London Goes Slow

So far the provinces have done more in the campaign than London. With this notable exception: the borough of Wimbledon, suburb of London, is the peak town for fitness in Britain.

Why, in Wimbledon the Mayor leads fitness classes, there is a local "Keep Fit" newspaper, and a project is being fostered to build a great stadium for athletic sports and physical culture.

Other hesitant towns are asked to copy the Wimbledon model.

Robbed of Their Rights

MEMBERS of the Government are anxious about the tragic consequences of open violation of the licensing and compulsory third-party insurance sections of the Road Traffic Act.

Early in the New Year the Cabinet may be compelled to act because of the great number of destitute families thrown on public funds when they fail to recover damages awarded for the death or maiming of their breadwinners.

Always they are denied compensation because the guilty motorists were uninsured and declare that they have no means to pay.

Reform is necessary in the direction of authorising and enforcing much heavier sentences on the culprits.

Take this case: Anthony Wells, of Billericay, twenty-two-year-old member of a well-known Essex family, killed a man with his car eighteen months ago. Damages of £1,400 were awarded to the widow.

Not a penny of these or the legal costs has been paid. Wells, an amateur jockey and prominent in county society, pleads that his pleasures and his clothing are provided by his father.

He has never thought, he admits, of giving any part of the money he spends on entertainment to the woman whose husband was killed.

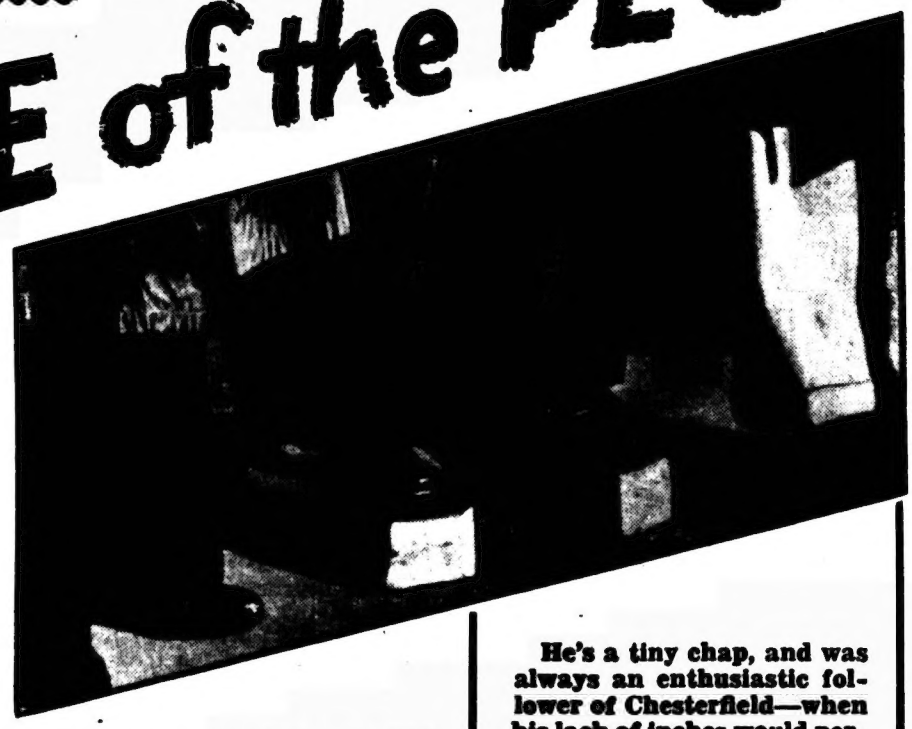
All that the law has been able to compel him to pay in connection with the tragedy is a £5 fine for driving without insurance.

Despite the terrible results of his default, Wells—who has become an officer in the Supplementary Reserve of the Essex Regiment—has now repeated the offence of motoring without licence or insurance.

And, once again, he has escaped with a £5 fine imposed by a local Bench!

- ***How Bad is a Lie?***
- ***Our Civic Gluttons***
- ***Ghosts of Gold***

VOICE of the PEOPLE



ONE meets people so proud of their outspokenness that they don't mind hurting the feelings of others with what they call "the blunt truth."

One meets other and quite truthful people who would tell a fib to spare a person suffering.

I know which I prefer.—Mrs. H. Kemp, Cowbeech, Sussex.

Doctors are always having to lie—to the badly injured survivors of accidents, for instance, when it would be dangerous to tell them the truth. First question in assessing a lie, surely, is "Does the teller benefit from it?"

Don't Blame the Mayor

Mayor-making having taken place last month over the whole of the country, the spate of mayoral banquets is finished.

Can anyoody tell me why a new mayor and his corporation and hordes of local dead-heads—always the same crowd—should have to be blown out with food and wine?—Ernest G. Smith, 17, Meir Road, Longton, Staffs.

Don't blame the poor mayor. He has to pay for the blow-out. In many cases it costs upwards of £100. What is more, mayors cannot nominate many guests of their own choice. They are just handed lists of regulars and told to carry on.

The Real John Bulls

Remember, when anybody says we are going to the dogs, that according to the lists of Ministry of Labour Office, Kew, we still have *at least*

127 Stanley Baldwins,

10 Winston Churchills, and

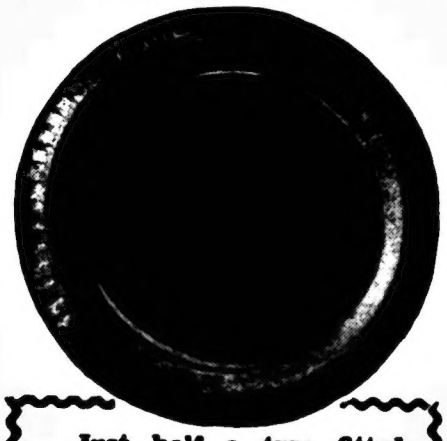
150 John Bulls.—Daniel J. Pointon, Moorland Road, Burslem.

One of the John Bulls is a retired postman in the London area, is typical of this national character—and, according to G.P.O., worked his whole lifetime without losing a day.

Wages of Crime

How much is stolen in this country in a year? How big a percentage do the "fences" get?

What I really want to know is—who does best out of crime, thief or receiver, and who is the bigger offender in the eyes of the law?—F. Hancox, 136, Villiers Street, Stoke, Coventry.



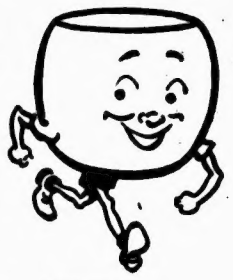
Just half a tyre fitted round the dart board—and the most fussy wife will let you play darts at home! Photo by G. Leslie Horn, 67, Cecil Avenue, Enfield, Middlesex.

Receivers pay about one-third market value for gold, one-sixth for large and therefore easily recognisable diamonds (there is a register of important diamonds, by the way), and one-twentieth for plated articles. Law regards receivers as worst offenders: (1) Because they get biggest haul, and (2) because if there were no fences there would be few thieves.

Hard Cheese!

At the request of a relative in Eire, we sent a specimen of real Cheshire cheese on August 11, filling in the necessary declaration form.

On the 18th, we were informed that the relative would have to apply for a licence to the Ministry of Agriculture to receive the parcel.



To-day, some months later, we were amazed at the return of the cheese. Whether it walked home or not we are not quite certain.—P. L., 12, Forrest Street, Latchford, Warrington.

Drew a Blank

Having passed all his exams at a neighbouring county school, my nephew stalked proudly up to the platform on Speech Day to receive his certificates.

Judge his surprise when he was handed rolls of blank paper.

The reason given by the school authorities was that certificates were so often handed to boys who hadn't won them—that it was better to distribute them in class the next morning.—C. Findlay, Pulford Road, Bebington, Cheshire.

Other schools do it, give as reason the fact that boys sometimes tear or lose their certificates before getting home. A better reason, anyhow, than the one given to Reader Findlay.

Their Happy Homes

I read in JOHN BULL of the wonder homes Glasgow has built for her old people—so I went to see for myself.

Living-rooms and bedrooms in autumn tints, moquette chairs, electric clocks, wireless sets and fully equipped kitchenettes and bathrooms. A dining-room that would make some smart restaurants look dingy.

Homes like these for Darby and Joan—in which to live *together* on less than the old age pension. Oh, why don't other authorities go to see for themselves!—Mrs. L. Winter, 2, Norwich Drive, Glasgow.

In many cases because they are lacking in common humanity.

He's a tiny chap, and was always an enthusiastic follower of Chesterfield—when his lack of inches would permit him to see.

Now, however, he's made up for his shortage of stature with light wooden blocks fitted to his feet with bands of webbing.—A. E. Slack, 32, Littlemoor Crescent, Newbold, Chesterfield.

Britain's Bullion

Britain is to send immense gold reserves to America. The idea is that it will be there ready to pay America for munitions in the event of our going to war, and there will therefore be no risk transhipping it.

As our purchases would be in the millions of pounds *per day* we shall surely need all the Canadian strong rooms available to store the bullion.—S. M. M., Epsom.

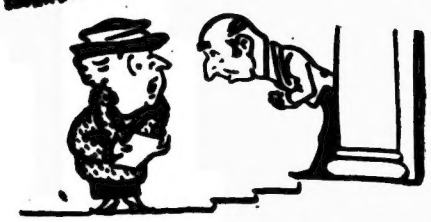
All the gold ever yielded by Mother Earth would just about fill three seven-room villas. But the people who have marched and died for gold would repeople Europe.

Quacksalber

I have dodged at least a dozen financial, medical and other quacks, thanks to some years' readership of JOHN BULL.

Scarcely a week goes without you putting paid to the account of one quack or another. And yet—what does this duck-like word mean?—Enquirer, Horsham.

It is from Quacksalber, German word for quicksilver. Germany had people who pretended quicksilver would cure anything—like some of our present-day market-place orators who, making the same wild claims for roots, etc., deserve to be known as quacks.



Pride and Prejudice

"Does Mr. Dash live here?" asked a woman representative of a political party.

"Yes, but he's out," I replied.

"And isn't there a Mr. Blank?" she went on—to which I retorted: "There is. It's me. I'm his manservant."

"Oh, really," she replied, with a toss of the head—and walked on.—R. V. J., 9, Clifton Park, Bristol.

Quick-change

"How long were you in your last job?" a manager asked me when I applied for a position.

"Three months," I said.

"And the job before that?"—"Twelve months."

"Sorry, but this firm couldn't stand for that!"—W. What, Clive Road, Plaistow, E.

If it was said just like that, with no questions as to reasons, that manager was silly.

Pity the Puppies

In January, when dog licences become due, the great slaughter of pets which have reached an age of intelligence will begin.

Why not insist that puppies shall have licences at one month old so that, if they are to be destroyed at all, it will be at the earliest possible moment?—M. A. Race, 46, Southey Crescent, Sheffield.

The law as it stands studied breeders, who maintain that they don't know whether a dog will be worth keeping until it is a few months old.

We Were First

Spelling bees were the rage in 1876. So much for people who think they are a new idea from America.

On September 7 of that year, according to a printed description I have before me, the boarding-houses of Llandrindod Wells met the various local guest-houses in what was actually described in the report as a Great Spelling Bee.—H. B. Davies, Crynant, Neath, Glam.

Many people think America gave us the words: "Sez you!" Dickens' fat boy used them.

We want to know what you are thinking about, what you've seen or done. So write to the "Voice of the People," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

We pay 10s. 6d. for each letter published and an extra 10s. 6d. if we use your own drawing or photograph illustrating the letter.

And there are other pages where you can help us to help you.

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A Railwayman Speaks Out

BECAUSE I am a railwayman who has the interests of railways deeply at heart, I want to speak the truth about the plight of the Great Iron Way.

I have driven many famous expresses, but I have to work for a foreman who doesn't know the first thing about an engine.

He tells me what to do—and even if it sounds madness I must do it.

I have seen loads of goods marked "Very Urgent," "Important" and so on, destined for towns only ten or fifteen miles away, standing in sidings right under the noses of engines and men ready to take them.

When your day's work is over, the "Very Urgent" goods are still there.

If I say one helpful word in an effort to improve the service on which I must depend for a living it is treated as a growl. I should get no thanks from head office and probably alienate local officials.

When the executives of the railways do their jobs as well as its manual workers and its mental workers in the lower grades—then the railways will begin to look up.—"Engine Driver."

At this correspondent's request, payment for his letter is being forwarded to railway convalescent homes.

WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR

KEEP YOUR HEADS

—and Save the World

NEVER a day passes without its pessimist. Never a day goes by without someone "in the know" declaring that next Spring is the world's danger point, or that 1940 is the year to watch, or that the General Staff of So-and-So has decided—how obliging of them to reveal their plans—to strike in 1942.

We are offered each day a shower-bath of gloom. And many of those who turn on the downpour are in high places.

You should not bother too much about that. If you are looking for reason and comfort about the issues of peace and war and you don't find it in high places, then what about looking in places not so high?

What about looking into the minds not of the mighty, but of the average people of this and other countries?

What about consulting not Sir This or General That, or Minister Such-and-Such, but Tom, Dick and Harry, Betty, Mary and Jane?

★

THEY will tell you plainly enough what they think and what they want.

THEY WILL TELL YOU THEY WANT PEACE, AND THAT WAR IS NOT ONLY THE GREATEST CRIME OF WHICH THEY CAN THINK, BUT ALSO THE MOST MONUMENTAL PIECE OF STUPIDITY.

They will tell you that there is no nation on earth that will ever gain anything again from war. They will tell you that in the next war—if any—every nation will come out worse off than when it went in; and that will be as true of the victors as of the vanquished.

And they will say to you: "That being so, what is the sense of fighting?"

Of course, if they are attacked, they will fight.

There is no nation to-day which is not determined to defend itself if it is attacked.

But if the common people of all nations get their way, no nation will be attacked and there will be no war.

That is the foundation of the optimism of JOHN BULL.

That is why we say there will be no war if only people will go on *thinking* about it instead of losing their heads.

If they *think* about it, they will continue to see clearly that there is nothing in it, that the whole thing is a scourge to them as well as to others.

IT IS WHEN WE GET INTO THE STATE OF MIND IN WHICH CONSEQUENCES ARE NO LONGER COUNTED THAT THE DANGER ARISES.

The young Fascist boys parading the streets of Italy and chanting "Tunisia! Corsica! Nice!"—the young Nazi boys frantically calling to Hitler, "Hail, victory!"—the young fire-eaters in this country (oh, yes, there are some) talking about "taking a crack at the Germans"—these are the ones who are dangerous, because they *have* ceased to think of the consequences.

★

LET their attitude spread, and it is all over.

Suppose the French lost their cool heads and began to cry for "Libya! Abyssinia! Sicily!"

Suppose everyone started going round talking about "having a crack" at someone else.

Then indeed we would be sliding down the slippery slope at increasing pace towards the end.

But the great and wonderfully encouraging fact of to-day is that all such manifestations are confined to small groups. They do not spread to infect the masses of people. The masses of people resist the infection.

They resist it by going on thinking, by refusing to lose their heads, by asking soberly again and again: "What good is it all going to do?"

AND BECAUSE THEY KEEP THEIR HEADS THEY SAVE THEMSELVES AND THE WORLD.

Where the few wild men see the torn flags above the smoke and the infantry line moving forward and the fighters locked in battle in the air, the cool ones see the casualty lists and the hospital wards and the blind men, the smashed towns and the ravaged fields; and, worse than even that, they see the hate and the fanaticism and the cruelty.

The wild young men are not the only danger.

There are all the "pro" and "anti" schools. "I am anti-German," someone will say, as if it was something to be proud of to dislike another race.

"You're pro-German," sneers someone else at a man or woman, still in possession of their senses, who occasionally tries to see how things would look to a German, and in any case has no desire to send the flower of Britain to be crushed on the battlefield.

"I can't abide the French," says a third. He has in his mind some fixed impression of what a Frenchman is like. It bears no relation to what the peasants and the sailors and the steelworkers of France really are like.

"The French are our allies," says a fourth. "We must stand by them." Even supposing they are wrong?

All this "pro" and "anti" stuff is dangerous, a trap for this generation, a war-trap.

THERE ARE ONLY TWO THINGS TO BE "PRO." THEY ARE PEACE AND JUSTICE.

THERE ARE ONLY TWO THINGS TO BE "ANTI." THEY ARE WAR AND WRONG.

Any other "pro" or "anti" darkens counsel, inflames passion, unbalances judgment. It is playing recklessly with the fate of millions of people. Let us cut it out.

Then there is a third lot of people who happen to mean well. But they are dangerous, too. They are the pessimists we mentioned at the beginning of this article.

Mr. Pirow, for instance. He is the South African Defence Minister. He has toured Europe. He declared that "tension" would reach breaking point next Spring. He felt that the difficulties were too great to be overcome.

So does Earl de la Warr, our own Minister for Education. He confessed to a growing feeling that there was nothing we could do to satisfy the German people.

M. Blum, who was a great Prime Minister of France, is also gloomy. He says that the visit of the German Foreign Minister to Paris will "offend French susceptibilities."

Well, this is a strange thing. The German Foreign Minister signs a pledge in the capital of France—twice invaded in 70 years by German armies—that there will be no more German attacks on France, that the present frontier between them is sacred.

★

AND this offends French susceptibilities. M. Blum, we don't believe it! We think the French people would gladly have some more of this sort of offence.

There is much, we know, to be said for being cautious. Certainly anyone who says there are no difficulties and that the road to peace is easy and straight is just a plain fool.

But there are worse things than difficulties. There are catastrophes. War is a catastrophe. And unless we buckle down and overcome the difficulties, they will turn into catastrophes.

To leave difficulties untouched because they seem too hard to tackle—where would we all be in our private lives if we acted on that principle?

WHY ARE THESE PESSIMISTS DANGEROUS?

BECAUSE IT IS FATALLY EASY FOR THIS FEELING OF THE INEVITABILITY OF WAR TO SPREAD UNTIL IT HAS INFECTED WIDENING CIRCLES OF PEOPLE.

Then men begin to say: "Well, it's coming, anyway. Better get it over quickly."

At that point, the great fact has been forgotten that the ordinary person in every country does not want to go to war with anybody. He wants peace. She wants peace.

Why, then, while that sure foundation lives, give way to downright despair and say, "What's the use?"

We prefer to believe with Mr. Kennedy, the American Ambassador in London, that we "make things worse for ourselves by adopting a defeatist attitude. If we are not careful, we may make things as bad as we think they are."

So JOHN BULL insists that war is **NOT INEVITABLE.**

JOHN BULL knows that war is not inevitable.

It knows that because it knows the common people in all countries do not want war.

HE'S RIGHT

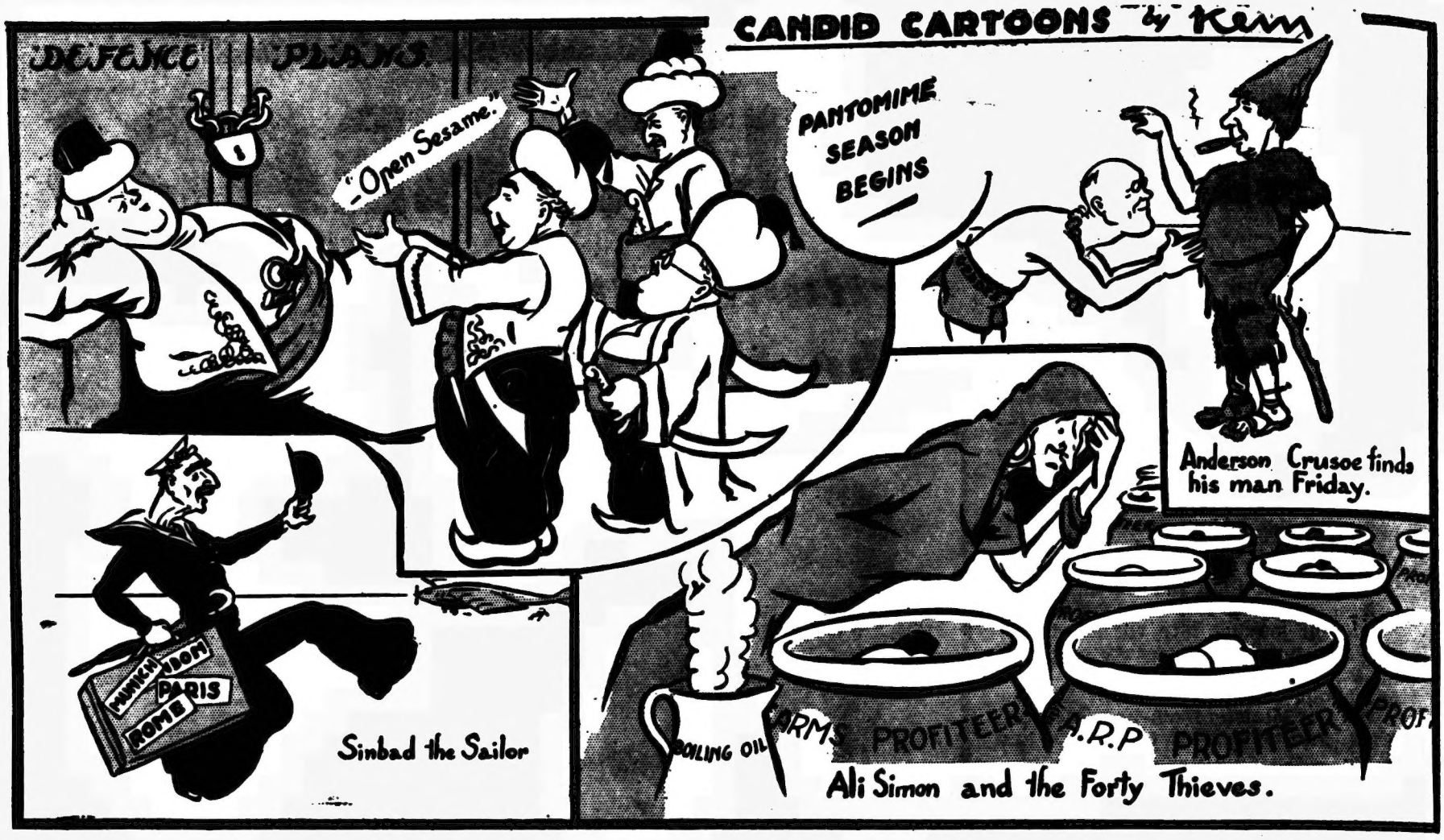
Mr. JOE KENNEDY

U.S. Ambassador

HE'S WRONG

Mr. OSWALD PIROW

S. Africa's Defence Minister



OPEN LETTERS

Answer, Sir John!

Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN ANDERSON, M.P.,
Lord Privy Seal

DEAR SIR,—Before launching gigantic new schemes for passive defence, hadn't you better make sure that the slipway is clear?

Reports that reach me week by week point to serious obstructions and muddled preparations.

You have set the printing presses clanking and roaring with orders for twenty million handbooks that will tell citizens where their services are needed.

But are you ready to deal with new batches of volunteers?

Even now there are more volunteers than supplies for them.

Even now many applicants are made to kick their heels because of a lack of instructors.

Time and energy are being wasted, enthusiasm converted into resentment, round pegs jammed into square holes.

Typical of the lack of forethought is the enrolment of twenty-one Charlton Athletic players as police reservists.

Should not men in the prime of youth, trained to a perfection of physical fitness, be assigned more strenuous duties?

Typical of the muddle in organisation is the issue of gas masks to remote Highland villages, while crowded London districts and suburbs are still short of supplies.

Should not every volunteer be assured of immediate training, adequate equipment, and an absence of that red-taped stupidity so apparent during the Crisis?

Public security demands that these criticisms should be met and their causes removed without delay.—JOHN BULL.

Mr. HERBERT MORRISON,
London County Council

DEAR MR. MORRISON,—Boys of eighteen are being employed in L.C.C. hospitals as porters—handling maternity cases, sufferers from contagious disease, and mental patients.

It is said that men are being dismissed for these boys to take their places—in the interests of cheaper labour.

Look into it, please.—JOHN BULL.

Lt.-Col. R. S. CLARKE, M.P.,
East Grinstead

GALLANT SIR,—Evidently you enjoy fresh air, but would deny it to all who are not rich enough to belong to the county set.

For you oppose the Access to Mountains Bill, which might be called the Hikers' Charter, because you think it is an attack on the sacred rights of property owners and might interfere with deer-stalking and shooting.

But you often ride to hounds, though hunting sometimes causes damage to farm property. Nor does it encourage shooting.

Indeed, I dare say your face would become more scarlet than your coat if one of your followers tried to get a little rifle practice at the expense of the fox.

Think it out, Colonel.—JOHN BULL.

The MAGISTRATES,
Dewsbury, Yorkshire

YOUR WORSHIPS,—Your chairman has retired at the age of seventy-eight. So you have appointed another, aged ninety-one.

The Lord Chancellor appeals for younger magistrates; public opinion supports him. But what is that to you?

To you, no doubt, a man of fifty seems an irresponsible child, and a veteran of ninety in his prime.—JOHN BULL.

The MEMBERS,
Stepney Tenants' Defence League

GENTLEMEN,—I am, I hope, a law-respecting citizen. But I want to see thousands of people defying the landlords' law as you have done.

You organised a no-rent campaign in a tenement block. Some families were paying 16s. 6d. for a two-roomed flat with a "spare bedroom," 4 ft. wide, that could not be used because it had neither window nor ventilator. The water supply had to be drawn outside. Well, you have won. The absentee landlords have agreed to slash rents and carry out repairs to the sanitary inspector's satisfaction.

You'll find plenty more work waiting in your district, I wager.—JOHN BULL.

Mr. WM. K. CHRISTIE,
Scottish Colliery Manager

SIR,—Miners' lives are still cheap. More than two are killed every working day, more than three hundred injured.

For allowing an uncovered cable to be used in your mine—which killed two men and might have caused a disastrous explosion—you and two electricians have been fined £10 each.

Fifteen pounds for a man's life!

You are lucky to get off so lightly; may you never forget it.—JOHN BULL.

Rt. Hon. Sir KINGSLEY WOOD, M.P.,
Secretary for Air

DEAR SIR,—I am still receiving protests from temporary clerks in R.A.F. camps, and still you fail to meet my request for investigation into their complaints.

In one training centre these clerks arrived covered with mud owing to the disgraceful roads. They are paid 58s. a week, less insurance; spend 6s. in fares and £1 on rent; have less than 30s. left for food, clothes, fuel, etc., while many of them are married men with children.

I imagine that if you had their life for a week your grumbles would be the loudest.—JOHN BULL.

The COUNCIL,
Esher, Surrey

GENTLEMEN,—Because your town is congested, you are opening a car park. And it is suggested that the attendants might be pensioned ex-Servicemen who would work for tips alone.

I do not know how many hours a day they would be expected to give you their services free; but I know that the arrangement would be indefensible in any circumstances, and in the case of a wealthy district like Esher it is abominable.—JOHN BULL.

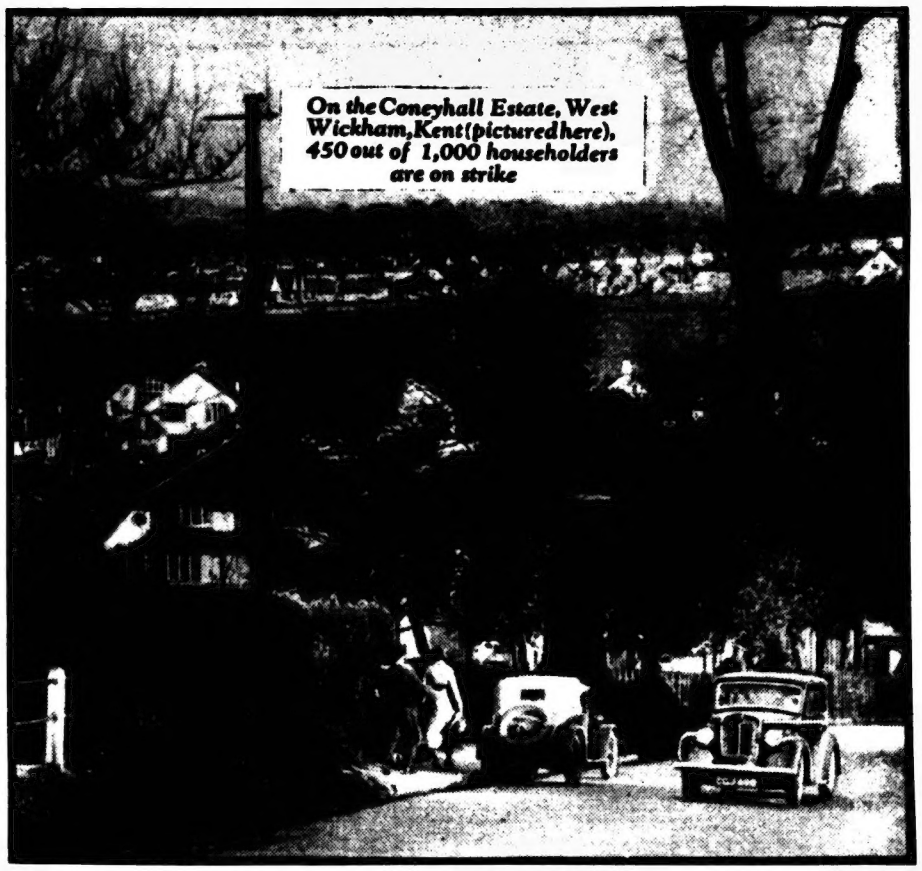
Rev. F. T. H. SHEPHERD,
Langley, Bucks.

DEAR VICAR,—Great towns and villages alike are troubled by persons who, lacking the brains to interest themselves in intelligent affairs, keep busy with venomous and baseless gossip.

Most parsons are too scared of offending their dwindling congregations to attack this evil, which has driven many men and women to suicide and keeps others in numb misery.

You have Christian principles, for you threaten to deny Communion to the gossipmongers of your parish. Shake hands on that!—JOHN BULL.

REVOLT of the HOME-BUYERS


On the Coneyhall Estate, West Wickham, Kent (pictured here), 450 out of 1,000 householders are on strike

BECAUSE their "dream houses" of yesterday are turning before their eyes into the slums of to-day, thousands of embittered home-buyers are stirring to revolt.

They see whole estates, sold at high prices during the housing boom, falling to pieces—as JOHN BULL said they would.

Roofs are leaking, ceilings are collapsing, weeds are growing through floorboards.

Occupants are faced with large repair bills in addition to their monthly mortgage payments.

They know that more and more repairs will be necessary, and that, in the end, they will be the owners not of cosy homes of their own, but of wretched, patched-up structures not worth one-tenth of the money poured into them.

No redress can be obtained from the builders responsible.

And so the bolder spirits among their victims are staging revolts in the form of "mortgage strikes."

They are refusing to pay to the building societies any more instalments on the money they borrowed to buy the houses, which, they say, have ceased to be investments and have become liabilities.

"We shall not pay any more," they insist, "until urgent repairs are carried out and serious structural defects put right.

"Moreover, it is obvious that our houses are not now worth the price we are paying, and therefore we demand that the mortgages be reduced to what the property is actually worth."

Already, in various parts of the country, thirteen hundred strikers are "out."

Won't Pay

Others are joining them each week, and if you take a Sunday-morning trip round any one of half a dozen estates near London you will hear scores more discussing the formation of residents' associations for the same purpose.

Some of the earliest strikers have paid nothing for seven months.

The estates where the movement is strongest are Feltham, Middlesex; West Wickham, Kent; Earlswood, near Redhill, Surrey; and Merton Abbey, Surrey.

At Feltham, 600 of the 1,600 belonging to the residents' association are on strike. Weekly incomes vary between £2 10s. and £8.

Weekly house-purchase instalments are about £1 a week, the purchase prices being from £400 to £850.

Serious defects have become visible in many of the houses. Several by-laws have been broken in their construction.

Cracked Walls

Dampness is one of the worst faults. There are bad cracks in the walls caused by structural defects. Woodwork is warped, doors and windows do not fit, roofs leak.

Before buying, purchasers maintain they were told they had no road charges to pay. Soon they will be asked to meet them.

Typical of the hardship which members have suffered is the case of an electrician. He bought his house to provide a pleasant little home for his wife and two children.

He was earning about £3 a week. So that he could move in quickly, he borrowed the £25 deposit from relatives.

The family had lived in the house only six months when defects began to show. Just small things at first—a few shillings for some paint; a few more shillings for an odd job that he could not tackle himself.

During the first eighteen months he spent about £8 in this way, but then more serious dilapidations occurred.

At the same time, he lost his job and dropped behind with his mortgage payments.

He tried to sell the house which had become a burden he could not carry, but it was now in such a bad state that nobody would buy.

All he could do was to abandon it. His relatives lost their money, and he lost what he had paid off the mortgage.

£200 for Repairs

On the Coneyhall Estate, at West Wickham, Kent, conditions are even worse.

About 95 per cent. of the houses have serious defects, and 450 owners out of 1,000 are on strike.

Mrs. Leigh, of 49, Layhams Road, has two bedrooms which are so damp that the doctor has forbidden the children to sleep in them, and has given a certificate to that effect.

Ceilings are cracked, the roof is not properly supported by the rafters, and the party-wall between Mrs. Leigh's house and the one next door does not go right up to the roof. You can put your hand from one house to another! ESTIMATED COST OF NECESSARY REPAIRS: £200!

In about three-quarters of the houses, if your neighbour lights a fire while your own grate is empty, the smoke comes through the wall into your sitting-room.

To a house in Lime Tree Walk came a couple with their little boy. Unfortunately he had tuberculosis, and finding the house damp the family moved.

So did Mrs. Clark, who used to live at 61, Chestnut Avenue. She also had tuberculosis and was obliged to move to another some months ago.

At Merton Abbey there is an estate of 220 maisonettes sold at £435 to £445 each. Although they have been built only a year or so, there is almost a hundred-per-cent. strike of householders.

Practically every geyser on the estate has been condemned as dangerous because of bad plumbing.

After wet weather, one family is afraid to switch on the electric light because of water lying on the ceiling.

At Morden Park the residents are considering strike action. Architects who have examined a number of houses there found that one wooden beam runs between two houses.

In other cases, two beams touch. Yet a by-law says there must be a fireproof material between such beams.

If fire were to break out in one of these houses, it could easily run through a whole group.

When the floorboards were taken up in one house two or three inches of water were found underneath. Two dead rats were floating in that stagnant pool!

Cause of Illness

At Earlswood, near Redhill, a strike which was begun a few weeks ago is growing steadily.

Here it was found that one main beam supporting a roof was broken, but had been repaired by pieces of boxwood on either side of the break.

The tiles are only laid on the roofs, not fastened. Chimneys are "rendered"—that is, made fireproof—only as far as can be seen from the room. They should be rendered all the way up.

In addition to these group-strikes, individual owners have stopped payments all over the country—in Carlisle, Denham, Hull, Watford, Derby, Ewell, Upminster, Ruislip and Bognor.

From enquiries JOHN BULL has made in the past few days, it seems plain that these protests will soon be counted in thousands, not hundreds.

In fact, what we forecast at the height of the building boom is coming to pass. The houses are falling down, and the householders are rising up.

Their Blame

We cannot blame them.

On the contrary, we insist that local authorities and building societies must each accept responsibility for seeing that only well-built homes are sold to the public.

It is not enough to say, "Buyers should find out what they are offered before they sign any papers."

Not many home-buyers can afford to employ an architect to examine the property.

Most assume that the house has been surveyed and pronounced sound by the building society's representatives. And they are told that all kinds of by-laws protect them, that the Ministry of Health and local authorities are watching over them.

But the prevalence of mortgage strikes, the indisputable fact that most of them arise from grave and genuine grievances, shows the need for prompt and thorough official investigation.

The principle must be established that buyers should obtain redress if their property develops defects within a certain period.

When the mortgage-strikers win—and they will!—that principle will be firmly established, and we shall see an end at last to the unchecked evils from which so many small house-buyers are now suffering.

A. G. Gardiner on the Menace to the Press

The Right to Write

MR. CHAMBERLAIN has little time for festivities in these days, but he showed wisdom in undertaking to be the chief guest at the dinner of the Foreign Press Association in London this week.

Never was there a time when the assertion of the liberties of the Press were so urgent as now.

Whatever grievances we may have against some of the modern developments of journalism, it is still as true as ever it was that a free Press is the palladium of our liberties.

WITHOUT FREEDOM FOR THE EXPRESSION OF OPINION NO FREEDOM OF ANY SORT IS SECURE.

It is for this reason that the first act of every dictator in these days has been to seize the newspapers, and not only the newspapers but every vehicle—the radio, the schools, the Church—through which public opinion can be informed, instructed and influenced.

In this respect they are following the example of Napoleon, who, when he was master of Europe, muzzled every voice that could be raised against him from the Baltic to the Mediterranean and from the English Channel to the Volga.

"If I were to allow the freedom of the Press," he said, "my power would be gone in a month."

FOR it is the essence of dictatorship that it can tolerate no criticism.

If a dictator is not a god to be obeyed without question, he is nothing. He has no hereditary status and he has no popular authority.

He must—again in Napoleon's phrase—"dazzle and astonish." He must always ride the whirlwind and direct the storm.

He must appear to his people as a being before whom the world trembles, and no whisper of challenge must be breathed in his realm.

—and the Right to Read

Hence, the first acts of the Nazi dictatorship in Germany were the seizure or destruction of all the channels of public enlightenment.

The Reichstag was burned to the ground and Parliamentary discussion was ended.

The newspapers were turned in a night into echoes of the dictator's voice, suppressing what he wanted to be suppressed and publishing any lie that would serve the tyrant's interest.

So with the radio, the schools and—so far less effectually—the Churches. In all Germany no voice is heard but that of Herr Hitler. "I am Sir Oracle: when I speak, let no dog bark."

That is the position throughout Europe beyond the Rhine to-day. It is the position in Italy, in Russia—everywhere except here and in the fringe of free countries that still exist on the western seaboard and the Continent.

Nowhere, save perhaps in Switzerland, is a word allowed to be publicly printed or spoken that has not the sanction of Hitler, Mussolini or Stalin behind it.

We saw how the system works in the recent crisis. The whole German Press belched forth the venom of Goebbels against the Czechs in a daily torrent of lying and slandering.

Every channel of truth from outside as well as within was remorselessly closed.

We see how the system works to-day. The servile Italian Press spits out a stream of poison at France.

The unspeakable Goebbels meanwhile lashes this country with his malignant tongue through a hundred spoon-fed newspapers.

What the game is we do not know any more than the unfortunate German and Italian peoples know. But it is according to plan, and the plan will appear in due course.

Through propaganda, says Hitler in "Mein Kampf," you can make the people believe anything you want them to believe—that "Hell is Heaven or Heaven Hell." All you have to do is to monopolise the Press and all the sources of information.

BUT it is not enough to lie to your own people. Free criticism anywhere is a danger. The truth must not be allowed to leak in from outside.

Hence the ceaseless censorships imposed on English newspapers in Germany and Italy and the elaborate measures taken to prevent broadcasts from abroad being heard in those countries, even children and servants being trained to inform against parents and employers who secretly listen-in to the forbidden word.

But the dictators go further. They aim at silencing criticism and suppressing the truth outside their borders.

They have two methods. One is to set the machinery of diplomacy at work to overawe the small countries with threats if they do not toe the line.

I am informed on evidence which I have no reason to doubt that, at the instigation of Germany, the editor of a Danish paper has been removed from his position for the crime of publishing a speech critical of Hitler which was delivered in the British House of Commons.

THE other method is to establish nests of agents abroad under the disguise of newspaper correspondents. We had our experience of this artifice recently when certain so-called newspaper correspondents were sent back to Germany as undesirable aliens.

But the most startling disclosure of the kind is that made by a Danish writer in the *Spectator* of a week ago.

He shows how as a result of the sinking of the Spanish freighter off the Norfolk coast by the Franco cruiser *Nadir* last month, a widespread Nazi plot has been discovered by the Danish police.

It is a secret Nazi intelligence service in Denmark and Sweden, directed primarily to the movement of *British* ships, ready to function immediately a general war broke out, and in the meantime trying out their methods in the interests of Franco.

Of the fourteen men arrested, three are German newspaper correspondents, all duly accredited members of the Foreign Press Association in Copenhagen.

And the leader of the plot is the correspondent of the "Berliner Börsen Zeitung," the organ of the German War Ministry, who had previously been expelled from Norway and Sweden!

IF THE LIBERTIES OF EUROPE ARE EVER TO BE RECOVERED IT IS THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS THAT MUST FIRST BE WON, AND IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT NO FURTHER INROADS SHOULD BE MADE INTO THE FREEDOM THAT STILL EXISTS.

IN this matter it is the leadership of this country and of France that counts for most, and for this reason it is vital that Parliament should be ceaselessly vigilant against any tendencies to invade the unfettered freedom of the Press.

That freedom has been the corner-stone on which the whole fabric of free opinion, free speech and popular government has been erected.

Any tampering with it would be a disaster not only to this country but to the hopes of restoring international peace and civilised relations in the Europe of the future.

Not from the B.B.C.

Wisdom of the Whys

When next you stand,
Glass clutched in hand,
Oh, brother, pause and think,
And answer why,
When feeling dry,
You like to have a drink?

And after thought
Profound has brought
No explanation plain,
Well, then the best
Course, I suggest,
Is "Fillemupagain!"

AND if you "fillemup" often enough and brood over the problem long enough you may be able to add to the sum of human knowledge, and thus outdistance a Chicago professor who has just made an investigation into people's reasons for drinking.

The results of this research work, solemnly cabled across the Atlantic, indicate that we drink from (a) curiosity, (b) social pressure, (c) appetite, (d) addiction, (e) habit.

So now you know, and, before ordering another round, may brood for a few moments on the marvels of modern psychology and wonder what discovery it will next bring to our admiring notice.

Feeling excessively sad

Because, you see, the ordinary bloke, cove or coot does things without thinking, so that if you ask a married male why he married, the guilty wretch will merely look a bit more foolish than usual.

Or ask yourself why you smoke, and probably the only explanation you will be able to adduce is that, at frequent intervals, you find a lighted cigarette between your lips, and it seems less trouble to leave it there than to arrange for its removal.

But, if a learned professor of Oshkosh devoted a few months of research to these subjects, he would be able to announce authoritatively that marrying and smoking are due to habit and addiction.

If such generalities satisfy you, you are welcome to 'em:

Because the wife's mother is coming to stay
And I'm feeling excessively sad;
Because the same lady has just gone away
And the world for this reason seems glad;
Because it's my birthday, or, if it's not mine,
It's somebody else's; because the day's fine—
Or any old reasons of which you can think,
Are my principal reasons for having a drink!

Y. Z.

SHAME!

...that is the word which will spring to your lips when you have read the thirteen tragic stories that "John Bull" tells on this page

WORST housing scandal of 1938 is reported from Breage, Cornwall.

Mr. Edward Richards, who has a wife and four children, has been ejected from his home on the ground of overcrowding.

A council house is vacant. It is refused him. Instead, he and his family are offered the workhouse. Naturally, he declined the invitation.

For days the family have walked the streets searching for a new home.

Mrs. Susan Bray, a widow, dependent on 12s. 6d. a week relief, has taken compassion on them and given them sleeping room in her cottage.

Now the authorities have decided to punish Mrs. Bray for her charity. This week they have stopped her relief allowance.

It will not be given back to her until she turns the Richards family adrift again, so that they shall be compelled to enter—and justify the existence of—the local workhouse.

* * *

FOR 227 years seven generations of the Fairie family have paid rent for a humble cottage at Livingston Station, Midlothian.

At least they did so until two months ago Then eighty-five-year-old Mrs. Margaret Fairie, who lives there with her young granddaughter, last of the line, said she would pay no more. She would not do so, she declared, until the cottage was repaired.

She has been told that, if she persists in her rent strike, the roof will be removed.

The house is not habitable. Mrs. Fairie must leave it.

We hope that when the attention of its owner, the Earl of Rosebery, is called to these facts, he will help the old woman in her distress.

* * *

IT will be a bitter Christmas for Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Sellens, both aged seventy-seven, of Stonefield Road, Hastings.

On Boxing Day they will have to quit the home in which they have lived for fifty-three years, where they have brought up a family of twelve, and for which, since Mr. Sellens' father first occupied it seventy years ago, not less than £1,500 has been paid in rent to successive landlords.

Mr. Sellens, who is a cripple, must go, because fourteen years ago the house was bought by a woman who now wants to occupy it. It is the law that she must get possession.

* * *

FOR thirty-four years Mr. Albert Nicholls, a blind man of seventy-four, and his seventy-two-year-old wife have lived in South Avenue, Southend. In that time he has paid £1,500 in rent for a £400 house.

Nicholls' only income is 10s. old age pension, 10s. blind allowance, and a few shillings earned by chopping firewood at home.

Now, like thousands of others, the landlord has pounced on him under the new Rents Act, raised the rent to 23s. a week, and sought to eject him.

A court order has been made, but surely the Spirit of Christmas will mellow the landlord before this blind man and his wife are put into the street.

* * *

HOW much worse, however, is the inhumanity of a Government Department which makes working-class people and their little children homeless so that its officials may be comfortably housed.

Nine months ago H.M. Office of Works coveted cottages at Mansewood, Stranraer. It wanted the site for a fine new Ministry of Agriculture research station.

The occupants and their belongings were bundled into the roadway.

Mr. Walter Elliot, the Health Minister, gave an assurance that proper homes would be found for all the dispossessed families. It has proved an empty promise.

But the Government officials are quite nicely settled, thank you.

* * *

A TEN-MONTHS-OLD boy has died of diphtheria at Oxford Street, Bilston, Staffs, as a result of being brought up in what is probably Britain's worst house.

Mr. Joseph Dudley, his wife and seven children have been compelled to live in it because the authorities will not give them another home. The accommodation is two small rooms.

Three years ago, owing to the crowded conditions, Mr. and Mrs. Dudley lost another child, who was scalded to death.

The house is so damp that the family can look into the street through the perished brickwork of the walls.

But the authorities are quite complacent. No one is to be indicted because two children have died and a family continues to suffer in such a hovel.

* * *

MR. ALWYN NIGHTINGALE, of Regent Place, Nelson, Lancs, is in danger of being sent to prison if he cannot pay a £5 fine for a technical road offence.

Perhaps the rich B.B.C. might help.

It should. Listeners recently heard a talk, broadcast from a roadside café, describing the adventures of a man who for sixteen years has driven heavy motor lorries nightly between Scotland and Lancashire.

The broadcaster was Mr. Nightingale.

But the B.B.C. paid him nothing.

The café owner, however, was more generous than the great corporation. He gave Nightingale half-a-crown and three bottles of beer.

* * *

NEARLY 4,000 poor people round Sunderland sent shillings to a chain-letter racketeer and £191 worth of postal-orders were seized when the police raided his premises.

The money was not returned to the needy victims of this rogue. Instead, by a magistrate's order, the postal-orders have been tossed into the furnace of the local fire station.

Of course, the actual money has not been destroyed. It will help this year's Post Office profits reach their total of £12,000,000.

* * *

EVERY morning Mr. Oscar Smith, an old soldier of over sixty, who lives in Steeton, Keighley, Yorks, gets up at 4.30 to be at work as an auxiliary postman, delivering letters to farm houses in a district six miles from his home.

On a full round he tramps nine miles a day across wild, bleak country.

For this the Post Office pays him £1 1s. a week! When the money he has to spend on travelling and footwear is deducted, he has 15s. on which to live.

And he is only one of thousands of men who are slaving for the Government's biggest profit-making department.

* * *

SQUEEZING income-tax payers is understandable when one considers the rearmament bill. But surely it does not justify this.

Mrs. F. E. Dunsdon, of Alma Road, Carshalton, Surrey, had to leave her husband five years ago. Since then he contributed nothing to the support of her or her family.

Recently Mr. Dunsdon died. His employers handed over to the widow £40 owing to him, from which she paid the funeral expenses and his debts.

Now the Inland Revenue have made her liable for his income-tax arrears, and have presented her with a demand for £4 10s.!

* * *

ONE year ago, William Millward, of Mill Street, Crosshills, Keighley, Yorks, was found to be suffering from silicosis. His employment was stopped and he was put on compensation of 12s. 7d. a week.

Now Millward is dead. Hospital doctors, pathologists and the coroner have all certified that the cause of death was cancer produced by silicosis.

The authorities responsible for allocating compensation to the widow and family refused to accept this verdict, although they ordered the man to leave work when it was known he had contracted the disease.

They will pay nothing to his dependants.

* * *

DISCHARGED from the Army a year ago, Mr. J. Barlow, of Gomsmill Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, could not get work.

The other day the authorities told him to take a job as a bricklayer at a place about twenty miles from his home. He could not do so because there was no lodging available and no 'bus or train service.

After long idleness he had no money with which to buy or hire a motor-bicycle for the daily journey of forty miles.

For this reason alone they have stopped his unemployment pay for six weeks as punishment.

* * *

YOKED together, two farm horses were struck by a motor car and bolted.

In their path was a gang of men on road repairs.

Harry Johnson, 'bus conductor, of Princes Road, Middlesbrough, saw the danger.

He leaped from his 'bus and seized one of the animals. But he was carried struggling for three-quarters of a mile before he could get the horses under control.

His clothing and shoes were ruined, and his watch smashed to pieces. He had to be treated in hospital for injuries and shock.

And, in the long fight with the frightened horses, 10s. 9d. fell from his conductor's satchel. He has had to make good that amount to his employers.

Mr. Johnson can get no redress nor compensation.

There is no legal method by which it can be extracted either from the owner of the horses or the motorist.

Eighty-five year old Mrs. Fairie and her granddaughter. They must quit the cottage for which seven generations have paid rent for 227 years

FORECAST FOR CHRISTMAS

"Medium" & "Mild" in all districts

"Medium" or "Mild" the 'present' forecast for Christmas . . . and a very cheery one for all concerned because the fragrance of Player's is as much a part of Christmas as crackers and pies. So give "Player's"—the Cigarettes you can be sure a smoker would choose himself. . . . And you can please individual tastes by sending "Medium" or "Mild"; both are Cork-Tipped or Plain.

N.C.C.4597

Player's

NAVY CUT CIGARETTES & TOBACCO

Issued by The Imperial Tobacco Company (of Great Britain and Ireland), Ltd.

NAVY CUT CIGARETTES
"Medium" IN CARD BOXES
25 - 1'3 50 - 2'5 100 - 4'8
IN FLAT TINS
50 - 2'6 100 - 4'10 150 - 7'3
IN 5-20$ PACKETS 100 FOR 4'9½
"Mild" IN CARD BOXES 50 - 2'5
ALL PLAIN OR CORK-TIPPED
MEDIUM NAVY CUT TOBACCO 4oz. TIN 4'4

Sir Wyndham Childs' exposure of crooks who work behind the mask of Santa Claus has already saved hundreds of people from the

HUGE CHRISTMAS LOTTERY RAMP

HOUSEHOLDERS in every part of the country are sending me books of tickets they have received for the same Christmas lottery.

Everyone asks: "Is this the ramp about which you warned us?"

IT IS—AND A GANG IS BEHIND IT!

Their camouflage is craftier than ever, but my investigators have broken through it, and they have enjoyed the job as much as I have.

Main bulwark of the disguise is: Grand Christmas Hamper Distribution, in aid of the National Women's Help Society.

Under this title, printed on the cover of the books of tickets, is the tempting shop window of prizes.

Christmas hampers, cash gifts, 100 turkeys, wine, whiskey (note the spelling), cigars, boxes of chocolates, Christmas cakes and puddings are all in the list.

With each book of tickets received is a letter headed National Women's Help Society Xmas Appeal, and signed by "G. W. Morgan, Hon. Organiser and Treasurer."

The Society, it is urged, is in need of funds "to carry on the good work of helping unfortunate men, women and children with free beds, food, parcels of grocery, coal and other things."

* * *

Reference is made to a hostel at Peckham Rye, London, which it may be impossible to keep open unless there is increased support.

Then comes the real bait.

Books of 25 6d. tickets are offered for 9s., "leaving 3s. 6d. per book for helpers' expenses and postage."

Since the books are sent out indiscriminately, there is, apparently, nothing to prevent anyone who receives them selling the tickets and pocketing the money.

But the rogues who promote the racket take a gamble on that, and they know it is a safe one. Those foolish enough to accept the lottery on its face value generally send the money.

Always the supposed charity named is just a pawn.

This time it happens to be one of the most crooked of them all.

A Mrs. E. Humphrey is shown as the secretary, but the woman who is really behind it is Mrs. Fred Booth, an expert in the art of bogus charity collecting.

She takes care to keep well behind the scenes, but we traced her, nevertheless.

Her husband, Fred Booth, who is equally notorious, was specially referred to by the Charity Organisation Society in evidence given recently before a Royal Commission.

He was said to make a yearly haul of something like £4,000 out of his charity rackets.

The men behind these lottery ramps crop up every year.

Christmas was far off when they began laying their plans. Usually they get busy at the end of August.

It is then that the Big Man calls his expert associates together and, over an excellent lunch in a private room at a West End hotel, outlines how it is all to be done.

* * *

If you met him in a casual way, you would never suspect that he was engaged in anything of the kind.

Last year one of the charity fictions used was the Poor Children's Fund.

This was run from Lavender Hill, London, S.W., by a jailbird named Edward Ford, who was subsequently fined £30 and costs in connection with the lottery.

Christmas lottery promoters consider themselves lucky if the authorities don't penetrate any deeper than that into their defences, and a small fine imposed on one of the hirelings is soon paid.

Tickets for this new lottery are almost word for word the same as those sent out last year, and whisky, as you noted, is spelt with an "e."

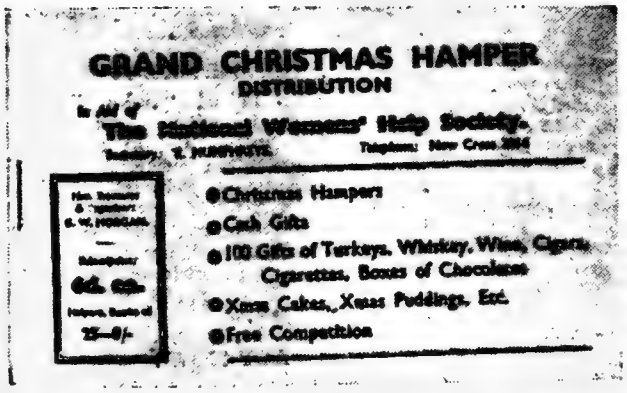
I find that an address at Staines, Middlesex, given as headquarters, is that of a small printer.

All correspondence received there in connection with the lottery is taken to an office in Fulham.

Timely exposure will, I trust, make sure that there will be precious little in the Christmas stockings of the gang this year.

Meanwhile, I hope the police will be able to get busy.

Fred Booth, whom you see here, was recently alleged to have made £4,000 out of his charity rackets



This is one of the books of twenty-five sixpenny lottery tickets which are offered for 9s.—"leaving 3s. 6d. per book for helpers' expenses and postage." But, since the books are sent out indiscriminately, there is nothing to prevent anyone selling the tickets and pocketing all the money

You Have Been Warned . . .

A READER, told by a woman canvasser that he had been chosen to receive a set of new reference books free, was puzzled to see that the literature shown to him bore only the address of the publishers.

It was "52, Bedford Street, Strand, London, W.C.," and the canvasser said the publisher's name did not matter as she would arrange everything.

This timidity will not seem strange when I reveal that the address is that of the Consolidated World Research, Ltd.

I have often criticised the methods used by this firm's representatives, who mislead people over this free offer, and commit them to buying an expensive encyclopædia.

* * *

FUNNIEST letter by a racing tipster which I have ever read is being sent out by A. J. Miles, of Langstone Road, Milton, Portsmouth.

He begins with the refreshing confession: "The first thing I must write to be frank with you is that I bought your name off a tipster sold to me has being a good reliable chap who like to have a bet"!

The rest, phrased with the same delightful scorn of grammar, is the old fee-snatching ramp.

* * *

EARL HOWE, who was under a misapprehension when he agreed to be president of the utterly unnecessary Institution of Motor Engineers, has resigned, and requested that his name should be removed from all literature.

Members pay an entrance fee of two guineas and an annual subscription of the same amount, but neither the so-called diploma nor the letters they are allowed to put after their names have any recognised value in the motor industry.

This organisation, run by Mr. Robert Willie Gorman from Bury New Road, Higher Broughton, Manchester, should not be confused with the Institute of the Motor Trade, a nation-wide and influential concern with London headquarters.

* * *

BEWARE the kind of advertisement which reads: "Advice Free. All matters strictly confidential. Avoid heavy expenses."

This is the usual bait of the "lay lawyer."

A Brighton reader, who consulted one recently, found that he was expected to pay 2s. 6d for each letter drafted for him.

If you do need legal advice, write to JOHN BULL, and you will be told the best course to follow.

* * *

WRITERS of begging letters are already trading on sympathy for refugees.

Typical is the plaintive appeal made to business firms in this country by Hans Przedecki from a village in France.

He tells the story of his flight from Germany far too glibly.

One hundred and fifty sympathisers—some of whom live in America, Egypt and France—have written to Mr. A. W. Chapman, of Burnham Road, Dagenham, Essex, whose ordeal was described in JOHN BULL.

When he was sent home in an ambulance from hospital his wife was told he had cancer, and that he could not live longer than three months.

Three years later it was found he had never suffered from the disease, but to-day he is a cripple.

A specialist says that if, from the start, he had been treated for his real complaint, arthritis, he would have been almost completely cured.

Avoid This First Aid

MR. GRANVILLE LEWIS, chief partner in the British First Aid Company, of City Chambers, Broad Street, Birmingham, seems to be an enterprising young man.

When he was a traveller for a similar company one of his orders, about which there was a complaint that although cash had been paid the goods had not been delivered, was from the police station in a Buckinghamshire town!

His employer straightened out that little matter, but there were so many other complaints that he was compelled to dispense with Lewis' services.

Now Lewis has his own business in Birmingham, and the same kind of trouble is occurring constantly.

Customers, tired of waiting for first aid equipment they had ordered and paid for, wrote to the police.

Usually the stock excuse is that difficulty is experienced in obtaining supplies from the manufacturers, and in the end the goods are sent off.

The company was registered in 1937 by Lewis, whose real name apparently is Gordon Tudor Evans.

Early this year it was re-registered with the addition of two partners.

A girl about eighteen years of age was in sole charge of the office when one of my investigators called there.

She refused to give any information about the concern.

I notice that a blue cross now adorns the price-list. At one time it was red, but the authorities pointed out that this was an illegal infringement of the emblem of the British Red Cross Society.

From my enquiries I should say that anyone requiring first aid equipment would be well advised not to bother with this firm, whose methods of business are so unsatisfactory.

Quality Comes First!

That is why Ovaltine is the World's Most Popular Food Beverage

PUBLIC confidence in its supreme quality . . . the certain knowledge that 'Ovaltine' is unsurpassed for giving and maintaining vigorous good health . . . the established fact that 'Ovaltine,' with all its outstanding advantages, is most economical in use . . .

These are the chief reasons why 'Ovaltine' is the most widely purchased food beverage in the world—why it is the most frequently prescribed by doctors—why it is regularly used in Hospitals and Nursing Homes.

Consider the ingredients of 'Ovaltine'—malt, milk and eggs. They are scientifically combined to constitute a complete food. The result is that 'Ovaltine' possesses nutritive properties and vitamin-value which place it in a class by itself for giving health and energy all day and sound, peaceful sleep all night.

Consider also the ***quality*** of these 'Ovaltine' ingredients. They conform to the supreme standards set by the famous 'Ovaltine' Dairy and Egg Farms, which are amongst the most hygienic and scientifically conducted in existence.

Throughout the 'Ovaltine' Factory and the 'Ovaltine' Farms, every detail reflects the exceptional steps taken in the interests of 'Ovaltine' quality. These are the reasons why ***'Ovaltine' results are obtained only with 'Ovaltine.'***

Prices in Gt. Britain and N. Ireland, 1/1, 1/10 and 3/3.

OVALTINE

Supreme for Health

The OVALTINE FACTORY in a Country Garden
The Ovaltine Dairy Farm with its renowned herd of prize winning Jersey Cows.
The Ovaltine Egg Farm extending over 350 acres and with accommodation for 100,000 birds.

Drink delicious OVALTINE—*and note the Difference!*

P4365

IT is 4.30 in the afternoon—a typical Autumn day. Dusk is falling and the lamps shine bleakly. In the distance are the shouts and happy chattering of children coming out of school. Suddenly there is a terrible screeching of brakes. A car comes to a dead stop. But it is too late. One of those laughing children who had run out into the road now lies with a broken leg in front of the car. A crowd gathers and in no time an ambulance arrives on the scene; in a matter of seconds the child is being taken to hospital.

"JOHN BULL'S" AID FOR PARENTS

The terrible toll of children's accidents is reflected in the number of cheques which "John Bull" sends out every week to its readers. Last week alone "John Bull" distributed no fewer than 74 cheques to parents whose children had met with accidents.

EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS

In addition to providing Benefits for Children's Accidents and numerous other everyday risks and perils, "John Bull" is the only paper in the world to safe-guard registered readers' household effects against damage by FIRE, STORM, FLOOD and TEMPEST and to pay SICKNESS BENEFIT.

£538 PAID LAST WEEK

Last week alone "John Bull" distributed no less than £538 2s. to registered readers or their dependants, as follows:

Household and Sickness Benefits	£233	2	0
Accident Benefits—Adults	£157	0	0
Children's Accidents ...	£148	0	0
	£538	2	0

HERE are a few letters from readers who have received benefit under our Free Family Insurance Gift. These are typical of letters received almost daily from readers who wish to place on record their gratitude for the "John Bull" prompt and practical assistance.

READERS WRITE TO "JOHN BULL"

From a Backworth reader:

"I thank you most sincerely for the cheque that was sent to me. Also for the prompt way you assisted me after the loss caused by fire in my home."

From a Swansea reader who wrote as follows:

"I am in receipt of your letter together with cheque, and am most grateful to you for same. Had it not been for 'John Bull' I would not have had the means of replacing any of the articles lost in the fire."

From a Marlborough reader:

"I am writing to say how very pleased I was to receive your cheque this morning. Thanking you for the trouble you have taken. It was nice to know we can come to you in our time of trouble."

OVER £600,000 ALREADY PAID

This Great Gift of Security stands without parallel in practical value. Since the scheme was launched, the colossal sum of over £600,000 has been distributed to registered readers or their dependants.

No greater testimony to the real practical value of this unique Family Insurance Gift is needed.

FRIEND-IN-NEED

The possession of "John Bull's" Certificate of Security gives one a real sense of protection. In our daily round we are often brought face to face with unsuspected risks and dangers, and it's a great relief and comfort to know that if misfortune does come our way—"John Bull" will prove our truest friend in need—a friend to whom we can turn, confident of ready and open-handed assistance.

ACT NOW!

Family life cannot hold any real happiness and contentment without its full measure, too, of security. "John Bull" is the only paper in the world to provide this essential Security.

If you have not yet obtained this unique Free Security Gift, you are urged to do so to-day. It may mean much to you and yours in the future. One never knows. Use the Forms below *now*.

SIGN TO-DAY

JOHN BULL

Hand this Form to Your Newsagent

To (Name of Newsagent).....

Address.....

.....

Please deliver or reserve JOHN BULL for me weekly until further notice.

Signature .....

Address .....

.....

..... Date.....

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.

J.B. 17/12/38.

CUT HERE

Post this Form to

"John Bull," Registration Department, 122, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

I have sent an Order Form to my Newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

.....

Reader's Signature. Age.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Name and Address of Newsagent.

.....

.....

..... Date.....

Use ½d. stamp. Don't seal envelope. A Certificate setting out the full Benefits and Conditions and certifying registration will be sent if ½d. stamped addressed envelope is enclosed for return.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY. J.B. 17/12/38

Master Sharepusher's £80,000 Haul

Public Benefactor

This week's £1 1s. goes to Mr. Edward W. Cross, of the Pavilion Hotel, Wood Lane, London, W.12, for valuable information about two rogues I am now exposing.

Mark your envelopes: Public Benefactor.

He's Just a Fake!

FREDERICK BURKE, one of the most polished crooks known to the police, is fleecing many people in his latest pose as a lawyer.

With his slight stoop, greying hair, neatly pressed striped trousers and black jacket, he certainly looks the part.

He arrives at the homes of his victimes in a car and presents a card inscribed "F. Burke—Solicitor."

A request for an interview is made to sound important.

Always he explains that he has been appointed trustee under the will of someone who is supposed to have died recently.

Invariably, too, a legacy is due to whoever he is interviewing.

As if it were normal procedure, he asks for a fee of four or five guineas to cover the cost of certain formalities.

The bluff nearly always succeeds.

Not long ago he was in Suffolk, and there are warrants at various places for his arrest.

Another of his earlier tricks was to find out the names of people who were pressed financially.

He proposed a plausible scheme for arranging settlements, and vanished after he had secured fees of as much as £10.

In his time he has masqueraded as an Air Force officer, a doctor, a War Office official, and even a warder!

He has been in jail no fewer than eleven times.

Mr. Cecil Whiteley, K.C., the Common Serjeant, who sentenced de Castro to three years' penal servitude

RICHARD DE CASTRO, one of the last of the spectacular sharepushers in this country, who was sentenced at the Old Bailey the other day, accepted full responsibility for the frauds which brought three other men to the dock with him.

He did not reveal, though, the more interesting fact that some of the most active members of his gang are still at large.

Two of them, who used the names of Edgar Smithson and Joseph Cooke, were the most cunning salesmen of his worthless shares.

It is thought that they have managed to escape abroad, but the police are still searching for them.

Enquiries are also being made about other men who are suspected of having been associated with some of de Castro's plundering schemes, and it is not unlikely that there will be further sensational arrests.

My investigation department has played no small part in rounding up de Castro.

He wept when the Judge sent him to three years' penal servitude, but he does not deserve the slightest sympathy.

For years he has been ruining men and women who were just able to live comfortably on the income from their savings.

* * *

Under his expert tuition, his slick, plausible emissaries specialised in inducing these people to sell their safe securities and reinvest in the gilded but hollow propositions they peddled.

One woman, who was robbed of more than £6,000, is now a nervous wreck, and it is feared that she may go mad.

Some indication of the heartlessness of the swindles may be gathered from the fact that the companies floated had absolutely nothing on which to trade.

In one venture, which held out promises of alluring profits by the cultivation of mushrooms, it was proved that not one mushroom was grown.

Another, connected with poultry, had not even a single chicken, and a third concern, supposed to have vast plans for selling rum, possessed two or three bottles of the spirit!

It is seven years since I first got on the track of Mr. de Castro.

Then, as always, he was hiding behind the scenes, careful never to sign any document himself. But I traced him!

Economic Finance Corporation, Ltd., was the imposing name of the web he wove to trap the unwary.

It did not look so grand in the light of my exposure which was headed "My Best Bag of Swindlers."

The revelations I made showed that de Castro, with the connivance of other rogues—one of whom I am sorry to say was an ex-C.I.D. man—had raked in about £80,000, mostly in small sums.

It took weeks of patient investigation to trace de Castro, and when the police were after him I was glad to be able to place useful information at their disposal.

* * *

When they arrested him, de Castro was ready to leave the country.

He was sentenced to five years' penal servitude, and it is only about two years ago since he was set free.

After lying low in Belgium, he returned here and started making his plans for the fresh swindles which have sent him back to jail.

I soon began to hear of his activities, though he was more careful than ever to keep behind the scenes.

A new associate he had was a mysterious "Mr. Gordon."

The task of unravelling his masquerade was interesting.

Again the patient enquiries of my staff stretched over many weeks, but in the end "Mr. Gordon" was proved to be Charles Edward Poiney, one of the men who was in the Old Bailey dock with de Castro.

His punishment was eighteen months' imprisonment.

It was then, too, that Frank Bertram Lockwood, another of the men jailed, came on the scene.

The trio were behind a number of bogus companies about which I warned readers.

Chief among them were Mead and Howard, Ltd., and the Film Finance Corporation.

These two concerns figured in their recent trial.

* * *

Others, with which they tried to do the same thing, were a land company with mythical interests in Majorca, and a much boosted £10,000,000 scheme to assist farmers.

It was stated that this big sum was actually available to finance the proposition, but there was not a penny.

When there was enough evidence to arrest them only Poiney could be found. The other two had gone to South Africa.

But they did not escape. They were arrested and brought back.

Both de Castro and Poiney liked to live in luxury.

De Castro had a magnificent yacht, and Poiney, who had a taste for expensive wines, enjoyed entertaining.

By the time they are free I hope the new Sharepushing Bill will be law, so that never again can they resort to their mean swindling.

Sir Wyndham Childs says...

I ADMINISTER grants on behalf of the JOHN BULL War Sufferers' Fund Committee.

The realisation this work brings that there is so much misery and poverty in the world is something I can never forget.

Sufferers are assisted by the Fund to the best of its capacity, but I am sorry to say that, at the moment, weekly contributions do not balance expenditure, and I have to draw heavily on our Reserve Fund, which has been saved for a rainy day.

We are eating into that Reserve Fund very badly, but distress must continue to be alleviated. You can read something about the work we are doing on page 19.

I ask those who have received any especial benefit from JOHN BULL or, through its services, have been able to avoid being swindled, to remember that a thank-offering to the Fund will be used to assist their fellow-men in distress.

Guide-book Snare Again

A NUMBER of Ramsgate boarding-house keepers, threatened with County Court actions for guide-book advertisements, have just heard that the summonses have been withdrawn.

Proceedings were started by the Catherine Press, Ltd., who use the business name of British Travel Association.

In making enquiries at their registered address, Catherine Street, Strand, London, W.C., my representative made an interesting discovery.

Painted on the glass panel of the office door was a notice: "When closed, enquiries should be made of Mr. Pickering, 35, Wellington Street, W.C."

There he found also the nameplate of United Publicity Services, Ltd., who published "Out and About the United Kingdom," another guidebook whose advertisement canvassers I have criticised severely.

It is now in voluntary liquidation, but the leading light in both concerns seems to be Mr. Cyril John Pickering.

He is the chief director of the Catherine Press, Ltd., and, after disposing of his earlier company, Cox and Pickering, to United Services, Ltd., in 1932, he later took a debenture for £5,000 on all the firm's assets.

In September he appointed a receiver and manager.

The trouble over the advertisements for which his Catherine Press company was suing the Ramsgate boarding-house keepers was that these people maintained a canvasser had told them there would be nothing to pay, unless they did well as a result of the announcements.

All say that the advertisements did not bring any visitors.

When they refused to pay, summonses were issued for them to appear at Westminster County Court.

They denied liability and asked for the cases to be transferred to Ramsgate.

Soon came an offer from the firm's solicitors to accept half the amount claimed "to avoid court costs."

It was no surprise to me to hear that this move was followed by a decision to abandon proceedings.

Leslie Rackham, of Dexter Street, Liverpool, the toy manufacturer whose activities have been the subject of criticism in these pages from time to time, has no longer any interest in the Wembley Miniature Football Game. It is now the property of Berwick's Toy Co., Ltd., of 1a (now No. 5), South Hunter Street, Liverpool, and has been since February last.

We willingly publish this statement to remove any false impression which may have been caused by our recent article, "Don't Be His Partner."

There is, of course, no question whatever concerning the integrity and status of Berwick's Toy Co., Ltd., who are the sole owners of the Wembley Miniature Football Game.

FOR SMALL TRADERS. SHOPKEEPERS.

MAKE MORE MONEY. Sell Tablecloths Towels. Silk Stockings. Overalls, Men's Socks, Ties, etc. A 1,000 bargains. Oldest, Largest. Cheapest & Best Wholesale firm. Write now for Catalogue & Guide.—Cochrane's Warehouse 1, Thomas Street, Manchester.

CROCKERY 120 assrtd articles 10/- 48 cups, sers. 5/- Glass & Hardware Dinner Set Free. Cat & Guide Free —Bridge St. Pottery,9,Bursiem

FREE ILLUS PRICE LIST to dealers and beginners for keen lines in Drapery, Hosiery, etc. etc (wholesale only.)—LEVY BROS., Dept. A., 39, Houndsditch, London, E.C.3.

HOSIERY, Underwear, Overalls, Haberdashery, Manchester, etc. Everything for the Retailer. Trade's lowest prices. Small quantities supplied. Send for Catlgs.—Archer's, Castle Gate, Nott'm.

SMALL Traders, apply for free 150-page catlg. of up-to-the-minute lines.—L. Frankenberg, Ltd., 37, Houndsditch, London, E.C.3.

EMPLOYMENT.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

There are now many vacancies for men to enlist as

AIRCRAFTHANDS,

with excellent prospects of being selected later for training in a trade such as Flight Mechanic, Wireless Operator, Electrician, etc.

Apply for Free Booklet, "A Life for Men," to any Post Office or R.A.F. Recruiting Depot.

ROYAL AIR FORCE. APPRENTICE CLERKS.—Vacancies for boys to be trained as Royal Air Force Clerks will occur in January, 1939. Candidates must possess an approved school certificate or be of an approximately equivalent educational standard. Age between 15½ years and 17½ years on 1st January, 1939. Entry by selection. Thorough training, normally for 18 months. Pay and prospects good.—Apply for A. M. Pamphlet 9 to Inspector of Recruiting, Royal Air Force, Victory House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2.

G.P.O. Engineering Dept. (no experience required). Commencing £3 13s. per week. Age 18-23. Excellent prospects. Free details of Entrance Exam. from B.I.E.T. (Dept 527) 17-19, Stratford Place, London, W.1

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE—Attractive careers offered to keen young men aged 19-21. Commencing pay £3 8s. The Entrance Exam. is not difficult. For full details apply to B.T.I. (Dept 801), 356, Oxford Street, LONDON, W.1.

BECOME A SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICER. Excellent pay and prospects, with pension. No exp required.—For FREE details of openings etc. apply, Chambers College (Dept. 819), 335, High Holborn, W.C.1

POLICE RECRUITS' HANDBOOK for 1938 (FREE). Contains information on pay, prospects and entrance requirements for all Forces. Prospective recruits (aged 19-25) should apply for free copy to B.T.I. (Dept. 602), 356, Oxford Street, London W.1

DRAUGHTSMEN.—Numerous vacancies available in Electrical, Mechanical, Structural and other Branches of Engineering, Building, G.P.O., etc., for men age 17-40. Exp unnecessary if willing to learn. Details of openings, salaries, etc., FREE from N.I.E. (Dept. 362), Staple Inn Buildings, London, W.C.1.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE OFFICERS.—Start £3 8s weekly, rising to £575 p.a., with pension. Fine outdoor occupation. No experience required. Details of openings for young men under 21 from C.C. (Dept. 59), 335, High Holborn, WC1.

CIVIL SERVICE VACANCIES. The new Edition of Civil Service Handbook is now ready for public distribution. Those desiring details of openings, age limits, pay, entrance Exams. for all branches of the Service (either sex—aged 15 upwards) are advised to apply for this Free Handbook immediately to B.T.I. (Dept. 171), 356 Oxford Street, London, W.1.

SHORT-STORY WRITING is a most enjoyable spare-time occupation—and you can make it profitable, too. But you must TRAIN. Send for Prospectus of the Correspondence Course from Pitman College of Journalism and Authorship, 211, Southampton Row, W.C.1.

POST OFFICE VACANCIES. — Both sexes—aged 15 to 23—no experience.—For full particulars of posts available throughout the country, salaries, etc., apply B.T.I. (Dept. 531), 356, Oxford Street, LONDON, W.1.

SALES VACANCIES.—Every year 4,000 new men are required. You can qualify by interesting home study to receive introductions to SALARIED POSITIONS.—Send to-day for Free book "Salesmanship," to Dept. 19A, WALLACE ATTWOOD COLLEGE, Victoria House, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

BUSINESS SERVICES, ETC.

RETAILERS.—Local trade is limited, so why not sell by post — the modern method of Trading? Advertise bargain line in *John Bull's* famous "Shop Window" and reach millions of buyers all over the country. One advertiser recently reported that from a single advertisement he had received over 500 orders for a 10/- article. A mail order department has turned many a local business into a national one. Why not yours? Start small, grow big. Apply on business letterhead for particulars and details of free advertisement writing service for shopkeepers and small traders. Address: Manager, Ideas and Sales Development Dept., *John Bull*, Room 28, 57-59, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

BARGAIN SALES.

WALLPAPERS DIRECT from 2d. per roll. SEND for patterns post free.—WEST RIDING WALLPAPER CO., 52, TRINITY ST., LEEDS.

"CARNIVAL" Hats, Novelties, Balloons, etc. Illustrated Catalogue J.B. free.—Beck's British Carnival Novelties, 139, Upper St., London, N.1.

WALLPAPERS direct from Mills from 2d. per roll. 350 Patterns post free.—OSBORNE MILLS, Dept. 8, Rochdale Road, MANCHESTER.

SMALL ADS. WORTH WATCHING

RATE: 10s. per line of approximately six words. Minimum charge 30s.

A1 NOVELTIES for Dances—Hats, Balloons, Novelty Musical Instruments, Masks. — List J.B.1850 free.—Dudley's, 451, Holloway Rd., N.7.

CARNIVAL GOODS, Balloons, Hats & Novelties, Wigs, etc. Send for free bargain list.—"Uneedus," 70/72, Arundel Street, Portsmouth.

DANCE NOVELTIES & ADVERT. BALLOONS. LIST FREE.—NOVELTY SUPPLY STORES (Dept. J.B.), 223, MILE END RD., London, E.1.

TOURNAMENT DARTS, Ideal Gift. Brass, detachable, 4-feathered shafts, 1/6, post free.—Dobson's, 46, Lister St., Moldgreen, Huddersfield.

INGERSOLL WATCHES.—You can own one of these famous Watches (Ladies' or Gent's) and pay by easiest instalments. See advts. on page 3.

WIRELESS AND MUSICAL.

PIANO ACCDS., Trumpets, Guitars, Ukes. 1d. p.c. brings 71-pp. cat. Also on request 36-pp. cat. DRUMS. EASIEST TERMS.—J. B. Raymond, 5, Laurence Pountney Hill, London, E.C.4.

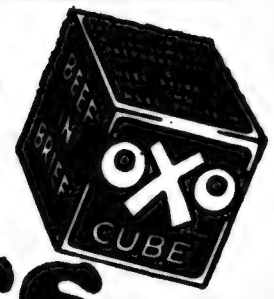
ACCORDIONS: Pre-Christmas Sale. Prices slashed to clear. List: PREMIER, Golden Square, London, W.1. Gerrard 2327.

SPECIAL XMAS attraction. Turn to page 26 for details of the Marconi All-wave Superhet Radiogram, which can be obtained on H.P. Terms.

MEDICAL, CURATIVE.

HOW TO STOP SMOKING.—Genuine remedy, proved by Testimonials.—Write, The Stanley Institute, Ltd (J.B.), 21, Warwick Lane, E.C.4.

OXO



RHYMES

A chef, when we asked him his views
On a good "tip" for flavouring stews
Said OXO's the best
It adds savour and zest
To all gravies, Soups, Stews, ragoûts!

If hubby is heard to ask "Why
Is this meat so infernally dry?"
Get some OXO and look
In your Cookery book
And incipient squalls will all fly!

Can You write an Original OXO RHYME ?

For each Oxo Rhyme published, Oxo Ltd. will pay £1-1-0 for rights of publication.

Send your Rhyme to-day with name and address to :— Dept. J.B OXO Ltd., Thames House, London, E.C.4, and remember

A doctor we overheard say
To a "case" who felt fagged out all day—
"Try some OXO for Lunch,
It gives such vim and punch
That hard work soon turns into play!"

"INVASION"—a wonderful new game invented by "Public Thriller No. 1"—DENNIS WHEATLEY. It's exciting, thrilling, and with its 24-in. Square, 6-colour Board, 160 pieces, shaker and dice is wonderful value. See the advert. of Geographia on page 3.

ADVICE TO EXPECTANT MOTHERS.—Let Mrs. Howard give you her expert advice on dressing the Modern Baby. See her advertisement, page 3. Home-made, 75-piece Layette for only 30/-. Also choicest quality, 42s.

10/- DOWN secures lovely Swagger Fur Coat in Musquash Coney. Fill in the coupon in the Sugden advertisement on p. 33 for free catalogue.

FREE.—A wonderful Xmas catalogue of furniture and the Drage's Annual. Write, mentioning *John Bull*, to DRAGES, Ltd., 73/77, Oxford Street, London, W.1.

WRITE for free catalogue of Ferranti Electric Clocks. They need no winding or regulating and give a lifetime of service. See page 32.

DON'T WEAR A TRUSS! Use Brooks Rupture Appliance. New discovery. Wonderful! No lumpy pads, no springs, durable, cheap. Binds and draws parts together quickly. Sent on trial. Catalogue free.—Address, Brooks Appliance Co., Ltd. (320 W.), 80, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

COLDS AND HEADACHES quickly relieved by Cephos, the Physician's Remedy. Recommended by Doctors and Nurses. In Powder or Tablets. Send p.c. for FREE SAMPLE. CEPHOS, LTD. (Dept. 29), BLACKBURN.

SPORTSMEN! Increase energy 25% in 20 min. with VITA-GLUCOSE. If unobtainable from your Chemist (per 6d. pkt.), send his name and address to makers; they will send free sample. SIMPKINS, Hunter Road, Sheffield, 6.

A FREE Sample of URACE brand tablets for rheumatism sufferers is offered in ad. on p. 28.

FREE.—A sample of Bole's Gin Pills for Kidney Trouble, Backache, etc. See p. 30.

FOR XMAS BARGAINS—SEE PAGES 2, 3 & 35

FREE.—Send a p.c. for a liberal free trial bottle of D.D.D. Brand Lotion.—Write, mentioning *John Bull*, to D.D.D. Laboratories (Dept. M.N.16), Fleet Lane, London, E.C.4.

MEN!—Preserve your health and fitness by wearing a Spencer Supporting Belt.—Write, mentioning *John Bull*, to Spencer Corsets, Ltd., 44, Britannia Road, Banbury, Oxon., for free Booklet and further partics. See p. 26.

FREE.—If you are run-down, lack energy send for free booklet, "Iron Starvation, the Thief of Health and Strength." Write to Iron Jelloid Co., Ltd. (Dept. J.64), Watford, Herts.

TEST SAMPLE and free 64-page book, "Nature's Healing Powers," for all sufferers from gastric and digestive troubles. Write, mentioning *John Bull*, to Suntona, Ltd., 59, Exchange Walk, Nottingham. Attach 6d. stamps.

ALL foot deformities can be scientifically and permanently corrected. Further particulars and advice on application to the Incelean Surgical Co., 48, Langham Street, London, W.1. Mention *John Bull* when writing.

FREE.—You can obtain a free trial sample of Meggeson Brand Bismuth Dyspepsia Tablets by filling in the coupon on page 33. Enclose 1½d. stamp for postage. Meggeson Tablets can be taken at any time and are eaten like sweets.

POULTRY-KEEPING.

REGULAR SPARE CASH FOR YOU.—Quite EXTRA money can be made by keeping poultry—but you must go about it in the right way. Whether you contemplate starting now with a few birds in the garden or you've kept poultry for some time—be sure to see the splendid 1938 Edition of the "Feathered World" Year Book. On sale now, this invaluable book of nearly FOUR HUNDRED PAGES is packed with practical information and expert advice—essential help that solves every poultry problem, . . . that makes poultry-keeping REALLY PROFITABLE. Send 2/6 P.O. to-day for your copy to "Feathered World," Dept. J.B., 9, Arundel Street, London, W.C.2.

DO YOU KEEP CHICKENS? Here's splendid news for all poultry keepers . . . a unique opportunity not to be missed. To-day the Poultry Keepers' Advisory Bureau and Clinic invites you, whether you keep a few fowls in the backyard or farm on an extensive scale, to participate in a great new money-saving plan that will be worth POUNDS. Thousands of men and women interested in keeping poultry are already benefiting by this great idea—make sure you have details immediately by sending a postcard for particulars to:—Poultry Keepers' Advisory Bureau and Clinic, Dept. J.B.8, 68, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

GARDENING.

PORTABLE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION REVOLUTIONISED!! Sheds, Garages, Greenhouses, etc., now available made from genuine Western Red Cedar the everlasting wood which defies rot, will not warp, crack or shrink and has a beautiful appearance. Prices are as low as 27/6 and all models are available on easy terms from 2/- down. FREE DELIVERY ALL SIZES. Send at once for FREE Illustrated Catalogue to R. H. Hall & Co. (Kent), Ltd., 20, Paddock Wood, Kent.

NEW Flowers that will add colour to your 1939 garden. Get a copy of the December Pocket Size Gardening, edited by Richard Sudell, F.R.H.S., and read about the flowers that are going to be popular next year. Gardening is packed full of practical hints, tips and ideas contributed by experts. Here are a few of the subjects covered in the December number: How to Stake Fruit Trees—New Plants for the Rock Garden—Forcing Shrubs to Flower Early—Modern Michaelmas Daisies—49 Jobs to do in December, etc., etc. 25 Articles and Features—over 80 Photographs, drawings and diagrams—100 pages of valuable gardening lore. Ask for the December Pocket Size Gardening, on sale everywhere, price sixpence.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ENDOWMENT POLICIES PURCHASED OUTRIGHT.—A. A. LEWIS, 22, TIB LANE, MANCHESTER, 2.

FREE!—Send a p.c. to Odol (Dept. J.B.), Norwich, and a free trial sample of this famous dentifrice will be sent by return. See p. 22.

DON'T overlook the Oxo Advertisement on this page. £1 1s. will be paid for suitable rhymes published. You can send in as many as you like.—Address: Dept. J.B., Oxo, Ltd., Thames House, London, E.C.4.

FREE illustrated Gifts List. Write, mentioning *John Bull*, to Allinson, 210, Cambridge Road, London, E.2, for copy of this list.

FOR particulars of the Bread and Butter Diet write, mentioning *John Bull*, to the Secretary, National Slimming Campaign, Trafalgar House, 61, Newport Street, London, W.C.2. See p. 22.

FREE.—Every woman should send for De Luxe Beauty Outfit of Powders and Skinfoods for day and night use. Address: Tokalon, Ltd. (Dept. 422N), Chase Rd., London, N.W.10. Enclose 6d. stamps to cover cost of postage, packing, etc.

THE Policies of the Prudential Assurance Co. provide protection for your wife or your children, and an income for the man himself. Write, mentioning *John Bull*, for particulars to the Prudential Assurance Co., Ltd., Holborn Bars, London, E.C.1. You may never regret it.

FREE.—Hundreds of free gifts can be exchanged for Rowntree's Cocoa coupons, so send a 1d. postcard now to Dept. C.E.76, Rowntree & Co., Ltd., The Cocoa Works, York, for a wonderful free booklet and voucher. See p. 24.

THE N.S.P.C.C. invite your assistance and help in the prevention of unnecessary sufferings among defenceless little children—work towards which all sympathetic hearts should open at this time of good will to others. Send a Christmas donation to the address on page 37. Mention *John Bull* when writing.

FREE.—Particulars of the leading British Fretwork Outfits are contained in a leaflet published by HOBBIES. Write to Hobbies, Ltd., (Dept. 49), Dereham, Norfolk, for free copy. Boys will appreciate Hobbies' Fretwork Outfits—a complete set of tools to keep them happy making practical things in wood.

ABSOLUTELY Free! A full-size Criterion Junior Cigar, retailing at 3d. A real cigar, filled with real Havana tobacco. All you have to do is to write, mentioning *John Bull*, to Dept. J.B., Lambert & Butler, Branch of the Imperial Tobacco Co. (of Gt. Britain and Ireland), Ltd., Drury Lane, London, W.C.2.

FREE.—Get your boy to write for the wonderful new MECCANO catalogue, describing how bridges, towers, cranes, etc., can all be made with MECCANO parts. A copy of this 72-page catalogue can be obtained post free in return for the names and addresses of three of his chums.—Address, Meccano, Ltd. (Dept. 37), Binns Road, Liverpool, 13. See page 29.

SLEUTHS *who Safeguard* YOUR FOOD

Scientists and their test-tubes guard our crops against unscrupulous commercial rivals

MENTION sabotage to the ordinary man and he thinks at once of spies at work in arms factories or aboard warships.

But that is not the only form of sabotage that is being carried on. There is a far more dangerous form of wrecking—that which aims at the destruction of a nation's food supplies.

IT IS THE SABOTAGE OF CROPS BY UNSCRUPULOUS COMMERCIAL ENEMIES.

You may have heard of the Colorado Beetle.

It is an insect about half an inch long, its yellow back marked with black spots and blotches, and its wings blood-red in colour.

That beetle is the greatest menace known to the potato grower. Once it gets a hold on a crop of potatoes, it is almost impossible to eradicate.

Imagine what would happen if the beetle were deliberately introduced into a country where the growing of potatoes was of tremendous importance—a country such as Britain.

Laying its eggs in a healthy potato crop, this winged menace would fly to all parts of the country, and within a year its numbers would be increased a thousandfold.

British potato growers would soon be ruined, and an essential part of our food supplies destroyed.

That is where the sabotage comes in. Any ruthless commercial rival who introduced this beetle into Britain would strike a far worse blow than if he destroyed an aeroplane factory.

But you need not worry unduly. He or his agents would have to get past the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

So far no one has succeeded in doing that, and the Ministry's vigilance increases every year.

No consignment of living plants or parts of plants, seeds excepted, can be landed in this country unless accompanied by a certificate of health from a responsible authority in the country of origin. That certificate of health is a comprehensive document.

Not only must it guarantee that the plants have been examined and found healthy. In the case of potatoes it must contain a clause that the Colorado Beetle does not exist, nor has been known to exist, within thirty miles of the place where the potatoes were grown!

Deadly Beetle

But even then the Ministry is not satisfied. Fully trained inspectors are stationed at every port of entry, and it is their job to examine consignments as they arrive. In the autumn and winter of 1937-38 no fewer than 1,800 examinations were made.

And, despite the health certificates supplied, a number of these consignments were destroyed on the spot!

A remarkable example of observation on the part of a Ministry inspector was reported not long ago, and his vigilance saved the country the possible loss of millions of pounds.

He was on his honeymoon at the time, and was strolling along a quayside when he noticed a load of seed potatoes destined for British growers. His curiosity was aroused and he walked over to look at them.

Within a few minutes he found specimens of the dreaded Colorado Beetle. Had that consignment reached its destination the havoc would have been enormous.

No one could prove whether this case was one of accident or sabotage, but there is little doubt that efforts are made to introduce dangerous pests into various countries.

Smugglers at Work

In Tanganyika, where there are huge plantations of sisal, tea and cotton, there have been deliberate attempts to destroy crops, and, as a result, a great agricultural research station has been opened at Amani.

All incoming crops are now examined there, and the investigations are thorough. They last three or four years!

The reason for this is the fact that experts in crop sabotage can infect plants with diseases which lie dormant for long periods, only to appear years after the plants have been put into the ground.

So, at Amani, they isolate every imported plant, and keep it under cultivation until it has been so sterilised and purified that no germ could possibly survive.

Only when the authorities are completely satisfied are the crops released to growers.

But attempts at crop sabotage are made in other ways, the chief method being to smuggle infected or diseased plants into countries where crops are healthy.

To cope with this danger agricultural research stations have been set up in almost every country in the world, and plants suspected of infection are put under observation by experts.

The huge increase, during recent years, in the number of these research stations shows how alive the nations are to the menace of pests, whether introduced deliberately or by accident.

Every important crop has its own particular blight.

Certain parasites, if introduced in Britain, would soon wreck the whole of our timber supplies.

In countries where the growing of apples is an important industry, special measures have had to be taken to keep out the Apple Fruit Fly, a pest that has already cost American orchard owners many millions

Australia and South Africa have similar bans.

Some idea of the care that is taken to protect British agriculture can be seen from examples of the action taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in dealing with infected consignments.

In one case, 14,200 Iris bulbs were found to be affected by eelworm. The Ministry did not hesitate. The whole consignment was sent straight back to the country of its origin.

Five hundred vegetable tubers which were found to have been attacked by bulb mites were destroyed immediately.

Cherry Blight

But a consignment of wistaria trees from Japan, which contained scale insects, was given special treatment at one of the Ministry's stations, and the trees were ultimately released.

There are also cases where sabotage is not suspected, but where it is known that unscrupulous foreigners have tried to sell infected plants to British growers at top prices.

Thousands of packages containing these plants have either been sent back or destroyed during the past year

European countries seem to be the worst offenders. It is not long since big loads of cherries were landed in this country, all of them alive with larvae of the Cherry Fruit Fly.

As a result, an Order was passed prohibiting the importation of cherries after a certain date, and the menace of this pest has been stamped out.

It is not difficult to see how terrible a blow can be struck against a nation's food supplies by an enemy, commercial or national, which will stoop to poisoning plants.

Britain has drawn its Customs' net so tight that roots and bulbs are kept out almost as rigorously as drugs and other forbidden goods.

But crop sabotage is a hidden warfare that still goes on—a warfare that every man and woman has reason to fear.

Just a Human Story

"Next, Please"

IT is a busy little barber's shop, nice and handy for the local tradesmen.

The three chairs are always filled, and the two assistants and the lather-boy are kept hard at work.

Mind you, they can still find time to gossip about the day's racing or the football pools. The waiting patrons would not like it if they didn't, for we are all old friends and there is not much we don't know about each other's business.

That is the way of things in small towns.

Well, at lunchtime the other day, the shop was more crowded than usual.

Next in turn for the only vacant chair was a man—I'll call him Joe Smith—whom all of us have pitied and tried to help because the last time he was in steady work was six years ago.

He's got a wife and kids, too, and things have gone pretty hard with him, although, somehow, he always manages to smile.

"Haircut, Joe?" asked the assistant. Joe was just getting to his feet when there was a cough from a chair by the door.

It was our greengrocer, a pretty busy man with a flourishing business to look after.

"Do you mind, Joe?" he said. "I've cut things a bit fine, and they're waiting for me back at the shop."

Joe grinned, but it was a strained sort of grin.

"No, that's all right," he said. "I've got lots of time, lots of time, all the time in the world.

"And it's pleasanter sitting in here than standing out on the street corner waiting for a job that never turns up."

All the jokes seemed to die out after that and, when I left, Joe was still sitting there with his shoulders hunched, trying to keep his turn to the last.

Yes, he's got lots of time.

W. L., Hampstead, N.W.3.

Fynnon Real-Life Stories: Mrs. Ainsworth of Preston

RHEUMATISM was running up a big bill

Here is Mrs. Ainsworth's letter—

"I am 37 years of age and I know what Rheumatism is. Before Christmas, 1936, my husband and I took over a shop. We spent a lot of money on it but before long we had to give it up as I had an attack of influenza and then I got Rheumatism. We did not know what to do. I had the doctor every day and it was running up a big bill. One day my husband brought in a tin of Fynnon Salt. I did not want to take it at first because I had taken so many different things. I had to be carried upstairs and had to be fed, and it was very hard on my daughter because when she came home in the evenings she had all the housework to do. But now thanks to Fynnon Salt I am better. My friends say it is wonderful to see me walk and do all my work again. I have had ten tins of your Fynnon Salt and shall never be without it."

Guarantee

We guarantee that the testimonial published here, like every other testimonial we publish, is genuine and unsolicited and that the photograph is of Mrs. Ainsworth.

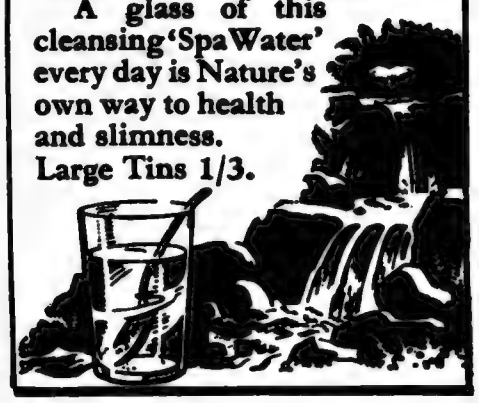
Fynnon Salt for Fitness

Fynnon is a double blessing. While ending the tortures of Rheumatism, it sets you on the road to exhilarating health. That's because Fynnon's powerful Spa Water minerals are a natural tonic for liver and kidneys. They enable these organs to flush out not only the cruel acid and toxins of Rheumatism, but also the clogging inner waste which is often the cause of unhealthy fat, poor complexion and bad breath. This way your *whole system* is refreshed and invigorated. Take a teaspoonful of Fynnon in a tumblerful of warm water first thing every morning and be 'full of life' all the winter.

FYNNON LTD., BRENTFORD, MIDDLESEX

Sodium, Potassium, Lithium
These health-giving elements of the great Spas are combined for you in Fynnon Salt.

A glass of this cleansing 'Spa Water' every day is Nature's own way to health and slimness.
Large Tins 1/3.



THE PUBLIC'S SERVANT

A Public Servant—and, like many good servants, even more helpful than you realise—is Modern Advertising, which introduces you to a thousand-and-one commodities that make life easier—enables you to purchase them at a price you can pay—and guarantees their high quality or excellent workmanship. Only reliable goods can stand up to public examination when twenty million people (including yourself) constitute the jury. That's why, if you purchase advertised goods, you can be sure that your money has been wisely spent—that the product you invest in is really trustworthy. Modern Advertising is your safeguard against the shoddy and the second rate. No wonder it has been described as Public Servant second to none.

ADVERTISED GOODS ARE THE GOODS TO BUY

A *Safe* Guide to Furnishing

Send for this FREE
FURNISHING CATALOGUE

HOME lovers should make a point of getting a copy of Drage's Furnishing Catalogue which contains illustrations of their fine furnishings, particulars of their famous 50 Pay Way Easy Terms and special protection services. Drage's offer the best values always, quality is never sacrificed for low prices. Lovely free gifts with every order of £10 or over. Secure a FREE copy of Drage's latest Catalogue or a free copy of Drage's Annual, by writing, mentioning "John Bull," to Drage's Ltd. (Dept. J.B.), 73-77, Oxford St., London, W.1.

SKIN DISEASES
AMAZING NEW DISCOVERY

"I am pleased to tell you I am completely cured from that terrible disease, varicose-eczema and psoriasis, from which I was suffering, and I can only thank Elasto Tablets for the wonderful and speedy cure. My legs now show no trace of the old trouble, **and my skin is as soft as velvet.** I think Elasto is the safest and cleanest and best blood purifier in the world. . . ."
(A.B. 1031.) (Signed) Mr. E. J. BEAUCHAMP.

Elasto, the New Biomedical Remedy, acts like magic; no skin disease can resist its curative action. It actually restores the natural power of healing to the blood. Thousands have already found quick relief and permanent cure, and are expressing praise and amazement at the wonderful results. Elasto is prepared in tiny tablets, **which dissolve instantly on the tongue,** and it is the pleasantest, cheapest and the most effective remedy ever devised.

SEND FOR FREE SAMPLE!

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HANNEN SWAFFER'S NEW WHO'S WHO

SPILSBURY

—the man whom murderers dread

BUT for his reticence, Sir Bernard Spilsbury would be one of the most-talked-of men in England.

But he will never be interviewed. Very seldom does he, in any place where it can be reported, lecture on forensic medicine, on which he is probably the world's greatest authority.

Even to this day, although he has been photographed thousands of times, he holds up his hand or tries to cover his face whenever he sees a camera.

This may be a pose, but it is typical of a man who, in the middle of melodrama all his life, says nothing except in the witness box. And he is probably the finest witness on earth.

Now and then, some aspiring barrister, seeking a name for himself, may challenge him in a murder trial.

"Sir Bernard is no more qualified than would be a medicine man or witch-doctor from the most uncivilised country in the world," said one.

Sir Bernard smiled faintly.

"Sir Bernard Spilsbury comes here with a great reputation and a great name," said another, "and, as so many do when they reach the top of the tree, becomes a little dictatorial.

"One does not like to criticise a man in his position, but the witnesses for the defence are entitled to have their opinions respected as much as the great Sir Bernard Spilsbury. Are the jury going to convict on the assumption that Sir Bernard cannot be wrong?"

Almost invariably juries say "He cannot be wrong."

That is a danger in some trials. Sir Bernard might make a mistake. He is only human.

But, such is his reputation, such is the deference paid to him by judges and by leading counsel, that very, very seldom is the other side's case accepted.

His evidence ensured the conviction of Major Armstrong. It was he who showed how Smith drowned his brides without leaving any trace of suffocation. Voison's fate was sealed because of him.

It was he who discovered, on Belle Elmore's mutilated body, the mark of an appendicitis operation which proved her identity and led to Crippen's arrest.

And, ever since, he has figured in every murder trial of importance, except the Ruxton case.

That, with which Sir Bernard had nothing to do, was the most brilliant piece of scientific crime-tracking ever known in the history of Britain.

Professor Smith, of Edinburgh, and a Glasgow assistant conducted it, and the way in which the two bodies were pieced together remains a record in medical-detective work still without parallel.

Drawing by George Whitelaw

You may have seen Sir Bernard Spilsbury in a London cinema. Films are his occasional amusement. He drinks beer. He smokes a pipe. He wears a bowler hat.

He is, indeed, in spite of his brilliant mind, quite an ordinary type of man, so far as you can tell.

If he sat next to you in a cinema, you would not know, if an attendant whispered something, and he went out, that the greatest criminologist of our time was going off with his black bag to examine a body, a body which, in a day or two, would be the centre of drama which everyone was discussing.

Sir Bernard lives in Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn Road, where, in his modest flat, he has a small laboratory in which, often, he works all night on his gruesome task.

HE is on the telephone. He drives his own car.

Nearly a hundred times a year, perhaps, he is called up, and then he takes his black bag, gets in his car, and drives off, in the night, to the wilds of Devonshire, to some Lincolnshire fen, or to a Sussex farm.

Someone has died mysteriously, maybe, or a body has been found, or someone, when digging, has found a leg.

"Send for Sir Bernard," they say.

Then, in a hut or a schoolroom, in the bedroom of some village pub, or on a kitchen table in a cottage, Spilsbury probes, examines, measures. . . .

And six weeks or two months later someone is hanged.

Spilsbury, though, may have more sense of drama than his quietness suggests.

IN a murder outside Bristol not very long ago, they were trying a woman and her son for murdering the husband.

Behind it there was a sordid sex story.

Then, in the box, very quietly, Spilsbury said: "I have here the skull."

He produced it from a cardboard box.

There came from the dock a woman's shriek. The wife, on seeing her husband's skull, fainted.

But, when she had been given a drink of water, Spilsbury went on pitilessly describing how a blow on the head had caused death.

During murder trials he sometimes produces a piece of a human body from a bag just as though he were taking out a cigarette.

To him it is just "evidence."

While on the track he will give little lectures on criminology to any village policeman standing near.

He lectures like that to students, and he lectures like that to juries, as though it is the final word to which there can be no reply.

Sir Bernard has grown suddenly old in the past few years. His long hours of travel in the night, his many urgent calls, the years of strain have put a mark upon him. He is only 58, but he looks much older than that.

So you hear, now and then, that he intends retiring, going in for medical research, doing more lecturing.

If he did go back to private life, even murder cases would lose much of their thrill. For even the tense drama of seeing a man on trial for his life has been heightened hundreds of times by the sound of the words spoken by the Court Usher: "Sir Bernard Spilsbury."

All eyes are then fixed on a man who expresses a view that sounds final.

A murderer's casualness becomes strain. A prisoner's affected indifference becomes worry. There seems no answer to what Sir Bernard says.

The defence may call anyone they like, but seldom is it any use. The jury just takes it.

Sir Bernard, you see, steps into the box like an accomplished actor taking the stage. He is the Henry Irving of the witness-box. His quiet manner dominates the whole court.

EVEN the most brilliant of criminal lawyers, Sir Patrick Hastings or Norman Birkett, approach their questions with the greatest care when they are addressing Sir Bernard.

They know from experience how hard it is to shake his word or to make him qualify anything that he has said.

Only young counsel try to be clever with Spilsbury. And they never succeed.

Once his daughter Evelyn aspired to Hollywood fame.

Even if she had succeeded she would never have acted in a drama so exciting as her father's everyday life.

Yet at Bart's they call him "Spills"—or even "Bunny."

The Greatest of These

Two People in Trouble

FIGHTING against hardship, the cause of which can be traced back to the war, are a man and a woman who deserve your sympathy and help.

George Eldridge, who served sixteen years in the Army, is unemployed and has a wife and three children to support.

Somehow, he has managed to keep his rent paid, but rates have fallen into arrears.

He is now faced with a court action and possible imprisonment.

The Vicar of the Hampshire parish where he lives says: "Eldridge is a man of good character and has never been in any kind of trouble before. His present position is one of real hardship."

Mrs. Woswick, whose husband was badly gassed in the war and died two years ago, may lose all her possessions under a distraint order if she does not pay £5 arrears of rent.

She has six children to keep on her widow's pension of 24s., which is eked out by ten shillings a week earned by her son of fifteen, and an allowance of nine shillings for another son who is ill in bed.

The doctor says that the boy does not get enough nourishment.

Mrs. Woswick should go into hospital for an operation, but cannot do so because she has no one to look after her children.

The Vicar of her parish also praises the way in which she has fought to find food and clothing for her family.

* * *

It is in the power of our readers to cheer this widow and the Hampshire ex-Service man who are in such pitiful straits.

Address your letter: Hon. Secretary, JOHN BULL War Sufferers' Fund, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

Nothing is deducted from amounts sent, all administration expenses being borne by JOHN BULL.

● Here is the amazing story of how, on a lonely farm in the Cotswolds, a band of refugees is solving the problems of exile by living as the early Christians lived

TWO THOUSAND YEARS BACK!

"THEY'RE spies!" said the roadmender. "German spies come over to watch our aerodromes."

"Communists!" growled the hotel hall-porter. "And they'll be starting a revolution before the Government does anything."

"Why, I've heard they do queer things at midnight," said a wide-eyed girl in a Cirencester tobacco shop.

Her mother counselled her that a still tongue made a wise head, and warned her that that tendency to repeat everything she heard would one day "get her hung."

"Well, they do very funny things indeed," said the daughter darkly

A garage attendant was even more emphatic. He took me over to a very glossy road map.

"Here's their camp, here!" he said, tracing a dab of green with a forefinger. "Up in the Cotswolds it is.

"There's two hundred odd men there, most of 'em Germans and all wearing beards. Something like two hundred women as well. . . . And now just look at this."

His finger next picked out a wavy little hair-line on the map.

"That's the source of the Thames," he said. "Those Germans can walk to it in a couple of hours. *What would be easier than poisoning the whole of London?"*

AND so the tongues of suspicion wag on and on in this pleasant corner of England about a strange local camp situated on the Wiltshire-Gloucestershire border.

Well, what is the focus of all this mistrust—mistrust which is not entirely unforgivable with the whole of Europe living on its nerves?

It is a community, a village, a German hamlet that might have been plucked from the heart of the Black Forest. It is known as Bruderhof.

The name defies proper translation. It means something between Brothers' Camp and Brothers' Farm.

To look at those who people it, bearded and bareheaded men in coloured shirts and breeches gathered tightly below the knee into gay, homespun stockings, women in the peasant wear of Middle Europe, kerchiefs as bonnets, is to realise why they should be so widely suspect in the English countryside.

They are trying to live the life of the early Christians. That calls for what the ordinary, average man and woman of to-day would call Strange Behaviour.

NOBODY in the community can own a penny piece.

They carry out tasks that earn money, but not for themselves.

Firstly, it goes to maintaining and building up the community, and secondly to helping the poor. And not always is helping others a secondary interest.

These people were turned out of Germany neck and crop—at 24 hours' notice—two and a half years ago.

They refused to hate the Jews. They said the early Christians hated nobody.

They refused to write "Yes" on their ballot papers in that Nazi election which was designed to show that the whole country was unanimous in breaking away from the League of Nations.

Humbly they said: "Our lives cannot belong to any human leader—only to God and Christ."

Even one of the storm-troopers who came to see that they were bundled out before the sun set again tried, in his humble way, to get from them the one word that would enable them to stay.

With stammering lips he tried to tell them that they had read the Scriptures wrongly. He reminded them that the Saviour said, "I have not come to send peace but a sword."

When they had convinced that storm-trooper that his interpretation of the Holy Word was wrong, he called them angels—in words they still remember in the Cotswolds retreat which has become Britain's first camp of German refugees.

The rest—the hardships, bullying and terrorism to which they were submitted before they found a haven here—they forget in hard work and in that condition of the heart that permits no hate.

They were at work when I visited the Bruderhof the other day to see for myself.

I have never watched men and women working with such intensity.

The original farmhouse they have turned into a block of one-room flats for young couples and a communal kitchen.

The old byre and stables have been made into more small flats, linked with a tiled veranda that gives a very Continental air to the square courtyard.

Every day the plight of the refugees who fill the frontier roads of Europe grows more terrible.

What is the world doing to save this vast army of men, women and children without countries, and who become the responsibility of every nation except their own?

The Bruderhof, described in this article, is helping itself—and helping others, too.

But its members are only among the fortunate few who have found sanctuary in this country.

There are 1,000,000 hounded souls in Europe. Great Britain and the Empire cannot harbour them all.

That is a task for the world, and there must be a world plan, in which every democracy will take part, to succour these tragic victims of oppression.

Here's a quaint contrast. Right, you see a Brother working with a modern lathe; below, the dustman uses the methods of Bible days

And soon the old barns will also be turned into flats.

Some little way off stands the bright little hospital staffed by trained nurses, the power-house in which the electric current is made, the laundry, the school staffed by fourteen trained teachers, some of whom are British girls, and the school house, where the children of the community are cared for side by side with children from our own distressed areas.

FROM the Babies' House and the garden attached, complete with rocking devices, paddling pools and sandpits, come shrill cries in half a dozen different languages, such cheerful cries as one would like to hear more often in the slums of our own country.

Near the workshop in which the community's furniture is made this laughter is drowned by heavy hammerings; near the turning shops by the whine of lathes; near the printing shop by the rattle of rollers.

Away out in the fields, where German and British "Brothers" work side by side excavating the shingle from which all the new concrete buildings are made, the predominant sound is song.

"No wonder they work hard—and joyfully," laughed my guide. "They have no money worries for the simple reason that they have no money."

I had looked closely at that guide when first he greeted me.

He had the bushy beard, gaudy shirt and tucked-in breeches of the Germans, but his accent, an

...SAND ...K!

Above, in the furniture shop, Czech and German worked side by side throughout the Crisis

Right, the stables of the old farmhouse, which have been turned into up-to-date flats for the Bruderhof families

educated one, was that of the Midlands of England.

He was one of the forty Britons who have joined this community since it was established and who are living, with the Germans and a few Swiss, French, Swedes, Dutch and Italians as well, the life lived by the first followers of Christ.

There are accountants and other professional men among those Britons. One is a young solicitor who gave up his successful practice because he decided that his allegiance was to the laws of God and not the laws of man.

And many of them are British unemployed men—who once knew what it is to break their hearts over the conditions that now give them so much happiness—a complete lack of money.

This guide of mine, I was to discover later, was worth a special study.

When the Nazi persecutions began in Germany, he went to that country to see what help he could give, in a humble way, to the oppressed.

The hounding of those men and women who seek to live according to the Christian principles of 2,000 years back was at its height when he arrived.

He stuck to them not because he shared their beliefs. Indeed, he did not understand them thoroughly. It was because his heart went out to them.

He has stuck to them since because he has come to think as they think.

When he took me into the workshop in which the furniture is made for the flats he said: "Meet Brother Adolf, from Germany, and Brother Christian, from Czechoslovakia. All through the crisis they worked side by side.

"Apart from the fact that Christian (whose headgear is a tattered old English cap) covets the soft, black felt hat of Adolf, they are wonderful friends. You love each other, don't you, Adolf?"

Adolf's smile was like sunshine. "He can have the hat now, and that leaves nothing between us," he said.

Once I asked my escort whether I could offer a cigarette to one of the Brothers. He said I might.

"We do not believe in luxuries," he said. "Why, there isn't even a wireless here. We have no use for it. But whether the Brother takes a cigarette or not depends on his own conscience.

"We teach him that he would be nearer to true living if he didn't smoke—but he may decide."

I pushed my packet towards the German Brother and he took two cigarettes—and winked!

"Ah, well. We must just go on teaching," said my companion cheerfully.

WHEN he showed me the community's 3,000 hens, I asked him whether eggs were not a luxury.

"To us, yes," he replied. "We must live very simply. We don't eat them. We sell them for the money the community needs so much more than eggs. We cannot be independent of money, you know."

It is the same with the milk from the sixty cows and honey from dozens of hives—except where they are wanted for the babies. Babies! People wonder why the camp should have grown by a hundred of them in two and a half years.

But the community consists for the most part of young married people under thirty.

Family limitation is considered wicked—and, as was pointed out to me, men and women don't mind the coming of babies when there are no money matters to worry about, and your children are handed over to you so that you can enjoy their company when the day's work is done.

And some of those hundred children are little British orphans, adopted by the community in accord with its principles of keeping an ever-open door to everybody in need as far as its resources will allow.

Some of the orphans who were adopted in the community's earliest days—it was founded in Germany in 1920 to create a different spirit from the one that had led to the war—were given a university education.

If it is possible, the little English orphans who are there now will also go to universities.

My guide took me into the laundry. Two beautiful girls in German peasant dress were pounding at mountains of washing in such an atmosphere of steam as you would expect to find in a volcano.

One was from Edinburgh, the other from Lancashire.

As we walked away from the laundry their voices were raised over those of the German women and the Czech boy—he simply cannot grow a beard!—who carries the heaviest loads for them.

BY day, men and women do such hard tasks as this. But by night you find them among the 11,000 books of the library, improving their minds and helping with historical research.

We went to the printing shop. After a struggle the Brothers were able to get one of their printing presses out of Germany. To-day it has the company of two other machines.

I thought the work was beautiful, and said so. Next the turning shop, where candlesticks, bread-plates and a hundred other such things are made at the lathe.

I had spoken to a German, a Frenchman, another German and then an Austrian when I came to the last man in the line. Shavings were in his heart and sawdust sprinkled his head.

"Don't watch me too closely, old man, or I'll bungle it," he said in the accent of Birmingham.

Yes, he came from Birmingham. His parents, I understand, have been inconsolable since he gave up a fine career to join the Brothers.

And now—would I have lunch?

We entered a bare dining-room with rough deal tables stretched out in a horseshoe round three walls. Backless forms were our seats.

The women took their places along one wall, the men along the other—each faced by a deep enamel dish and a spoon.

My dish was filled high with what seemed to be a mixture of lentils and meat. A dish of hot potatoes in their jackets was put before me, and the simple meal began.

Soon I was to find that any one diner had the right to command the attention of all the others by the simple act of turning from his food.

When one speaker has finished, another will continue the debate.

On this occasion a man who was announced as "a gentleman from Vienna" turned first into the centre of the room, and a whispered word from a German near me told me that he was in England to see what could be done about the settlement of Austrian refugees in the Empire.

There were 17 Austrian refugees staying with the Brothers as temporary guests, I found.

The "gentleman from Vienna" was pale, slight of build.

He spoke in German, and how fairly he pointed out that, where refugees are admitted, they should not be admitted to the detriment of natives!

A pretty girl of about twenty-five translated the whole of his speech and all the others that came after. She seemed able to render every European language in her own delightful Scotch brogue.

Then, at the end, somebody said that as a tribute to Sister Kathleen—that was our interpreter's name—she should choose the song we would sing.

And we sang an old German folk song about liberty and care of the oppressed.

The day was also Sister Kathleen's birthday.

She was married this year to Hans, from Berlin, and the community placed a little cake, a candle, a bar of chocolate and a tube of toothpaste on their work-bench as a birthday gift to them both.

Beside these presents were a parcel from Hans' parents in Berlin, and another from Kathleen's mother and father in Edinburgh.

Kathleen cried a little and Hans struggled to look cheerful. . . .

SPIES! Communists! No, they are none of these things.

Whether it is right that the community should continue to stay in England is a matter for the Home Office—which calls for an annual report and statement of accounts before it decides to renew for another twelve months the permits of the refugees.

In two and a half years the Brothers have spent £3,500 at village shops, paid another £3,500 away in wages to builders and others who have found work in the settlement, and helped the poor in our slums.

Many British unemployed men have found joy here. For many destitute British children the camp is the one hope of the future.

It may seem a cranky idea to want to live like early Christians. Religion, one might say, has to change like life itself. But the Home Office will not judge the Bruderhof and its people on such things as that.

"Wanted by the Yard"

YOUNG MAN, aged between twenty and twenty-five, of good physical development and reasonable education. He is sought in connection with crime in the Metropolitan Police area. Information that may lead to his discovery alive—alive enough to be a future Chief Constable—should be communicated to Whitehall 1212, or any police station.

Every trainee at Peel House is taught how to defend himself against bandits and lawbreakers

By Stanley Bishop

Fleet Street's most famous crime reporter

A FEW days ago I came face to face with the most persistent criminal offender in Britain.

He is a good-looking, capable man in the thirties, with an excellent job and a pension at the end of it.

Yet he is always getting into trouble. No sooner is he out of one scrape than he is into another. He seems to take a pride in his bad record.

Meet him between criminal court appearances, and he will amuse you with anecdotes about police witnesses, and how they have tried to trip him up. He knows all their little tricks, and he ought to know them, because he has spent a considerable time of the past year in the dock.

And, despite his waywardness, he still keeps his job, although his superiors know exactly what he is like.

In fact, they aid and abet him, and the more frequently he appears in court the more satisfied they are.

Now let me clear up the mystery. This "persistent criminal" is really a sergeant of police and an instructor at Peel House—largest police college in the world—where recruits are trained for the Metropolitan Force.

At Peel House everything is done to bring our young sleuths into touch with typical problems which they will face when they join the force.

Right from the start they are made to play the parts of *real police officers.*

It is for this reason that Peel House stages a model Metropolitan Police Court for senior students. They make arrests, bring the charges and give their evidence, just as they would do in real life.

One afternoon, not long ago, I sat in the model court as a member of the public.

From my own experience I can vouch it is true to type.

The magistrate—an inspector—is a stipendiary to life. I might have been listening to a famous Bow Street magistrate, so truthful was the reproduction of his mannerisms and—well—peculiarities.

When the magistrate would have been grumpy and reprimanding, the inspector was grumpy and reprimanding. When the magistrate would have joked, the inspector exercised his wit.

The clerk was fussy with his papers, and as efficient with the essentials of his task as any police court clerk. I knew the jailer. I knew the usher. I have seen their counterparts at Marylebone, Tower Bridge and the other courts hundreds of times.

But the star "actor" was, in my opinion, the persistent criminal—the sergeant in the dock.

Now he was timid and full of remorse as an elderly suburban motorist who was in difficulties for the first time. Now he was truculent and lounged insolently against the rail as he portrayed an old lag who was accused of "loitering with intent" near Victoria Station.

Each was a perfect little character-cameo, but as the victim of a bottle-party raid, still drunk after a night of celebration, he was superb.

After dealing with him—and he can be a very slippery customer—no young man who has completed his eleven weeks' course at Peel House and donned uniform for his two years' probation need worry too much about his first case.

In addition, of course, the probationer has also had every aspect of police work drummed into him at lectures and demonstrations, and he has been made to swot text-books.

The rest can only come with experience.

Scotland Yard has a permanent "Wanted" list. It is for young men of good physical development and reasonable education, aged between twenty and twenty-five, who are needed as constables and future detectives.

To fill the gaps caused by retirements and resignations the number of recruits should average twenty a week. Approximately a thousand young men are needed every year.

Peel House can accommodate every suitable recruit it can get.

In charge of the college is Acting Superintendent Ralph, M.C.—the Man Who Makes the London Police Constable. Under him is a staff of inspectors and sergeants, all of whom are specialists in some phase of police duty.

Recruits who pass the education and medical tests receive pay of £2 2s. a week, from which 15s. is deducted for messing expenses.

Excellent quarters are provided; unless a man happens to be a Londoner, and gets permission to sleep at home during training.

It is interesting that only 25 per cent. of the young men who want to join the London police are Londoners. Most come from the provinces.

And it is still more interesting that only one in every hundred wants to enrol under the short-service (ten years) scheme.

Whether a man is put on short or long service depends on the Board of Selection, but it is an open secret that the short-service enrolment is to be abolished, so the arbitrary decisions of the Board—which cause discontent—will not continue much longer.

School hours at Peel House are from nine o'clock to five, and after that the learner is free to study privately or do what he wants.

At the end of eleven weeks there is an examination, and those who pass become probationary constables.

Before he is drafted to a division, each probationer is interviewed by Sir Philip Game, the Commissioner of Police.

The youngsters meet the Commissioner in the conference room at Scotland Yard, hear his advice and encouragement, and then start on their beats.

For two years they work in company with experienced constables and under the eye of an inspector.

Most of them live in section houses, and receive £3 2s. a week pay, less 3s. towards pension.

Many hotels are not so comfortable as the newly built section houses. They have constant hot water; serve hot

(Continued on page 24)

He's always in trouble, but this "permanent prisoner" at Peel House is really a highly skilled police sergeant

Tough or Tender?

Try the Bite Test

If you want to be *certain* about a steak—take a bite. And, to make sure your tooth-paste is safe, give *that* the Bite Test, too. Grind a little of your present paste between your front teeth. If there is the least trace of grittiness, *beware.* Gritty tooth-pastes help to wear away the 1/1000th of an inch of enamel which is all that protects your teeth from decay at the gum-line. Don't take this risk. Change to Odol, the smoothest, finest tooth-paste you can buy. Dentists recommend this delicious paste because it is such a safe way to pearly teeth. Get a 6d. or 1/- tube of Odol to-day, or send 1d. postcard for free sample to Odol (Dept. J.B.3), Norwich.

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ON THE FAMOUS

BREAD & BUTTER DIET

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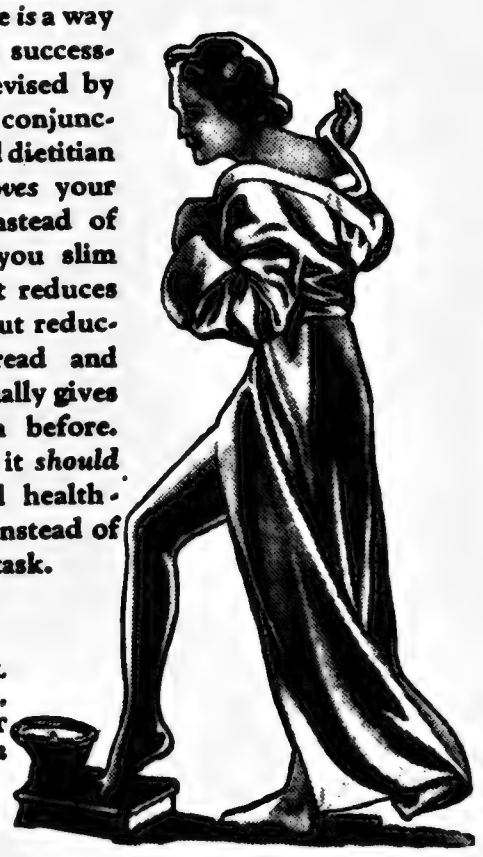

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"Really ! But how can they do it, and who does it anyway ?"

"Well ! It's made by Whiteways and that's a name we know and respect. They import the Grape Juice direct from the Vineyards, make the Wine in Sunny Devon, and so are not subject to the heavy import Duty as on foreign Wines."

"Well ! Whiteway's name on the bottle is good enough for me, and there is nothing like a glass of Wine for bucking a fellow up."

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AND BRITISH SHERRY

CVS—23

When you buy goods that are advertised in "John Bull"—you get the Very Best!

The "John Bull" Guarantee appears on page 31.

STOP THAT COLD

SNEEZING, SHIVERING, ACHING, FEVERISHNESS FOR 2D

Sneeze... Shiver ...Ache.....How rapidly that chilly feeling seems to get right into your very bones ! Stop it NOW for 2d. That's all a Beechams Powder costs, but the relief it brings is worth more than gold. Just as marvellous, too, for RHEUMATIC TWINGES, HEADACHES, LUMBAGO, SCIATICA. Make a point of spending 2d. on a Beechams Powder and getting speedy relief at the first sign of a Cold, Chill or Pain !

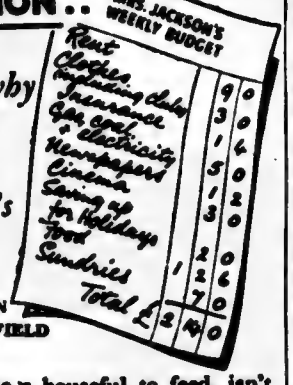
BEECHAMS POWDERS

ACT LIKE MAGIC

Cartons of 8 Powders 1/3. Single Powders 2d. each.
Not Laxative. Sold Everywhere. A Beecham Product.

"HOW I SPEND £2·14s. A WEEK ON SIX OF US"

"I BUY FOOD THAT AIDS DIGESTION . .



"That's why I always insist on Rowntree's Cocoa"

SAYS MRS. JACKSON OF HUDDERSFIELD

"SIX is quite a houseful to feed, isn't it?" says Mrs. Jackson. "And the children have such big appetites too, especially Betty, aged 13, and my twins Marjorie and Clarice aged 10. Little Pat is only 3, but she can eat her share too!

"I try hard to give them good nourishing meals, but I only have 22/6 a week for food, so it takes some doing! Luckily, a nurse friend of mine has given me a valuable tip. She has found that children get more nourishment out of their meals if they drink Rowntree's Cocoa with them, because it aids digestion.

"So now we all have Rowntree's Cocoa regularly, and I'm sure it's helping to give the family the good sound nourishment they need."

* * *

Rowntree's Cocoa is made by a special "pre-digestive" process, so that it is not only more digestible and nourishing itself — it actually helps people (especially children) to digest all their other food *more quickly* and *with less effort*. This means people get more good out of their meals. Children put on *extra* bone, muscle and tissue.

DO YOU KNOW THIS MEDICAL FACT!

If you drink something with your supper, it's worth remembering this important medical fact. You can't get a good night's rest unless your supper digests easily. Switch to Rowntree's Cocoa — it is *pre-digested*. Rowntree's helps you to digest your supper better, prevents digestive troubles from disturbing your night.

FREE GIFTS! Hundreds of valuable free gifts are offered in exchange for Rowntree's Cocoa coupons. Free Gift Coupons in every tin. Send postcard (postage 1d.) to Dept. CB76, Rowntree & Co. Ltd., The Cocoa Works, York, for Free Gift Booklet containing Free Voucher, value three coupons.

ROWNTREE'S COCOA AIDS DIGESTION

THE SANTA CLAUS ARMY

For a few weeks he is every child's friend . . .

WITH his scarlet cloak and trailing white beard he enlivens an age-old myth.

Small children look at him with pleased awe from a distance; others, with doubt of the legend dawning, press closer and pull at his robe to ensure that, after all, he is real.

And there are those, more calculating and worldly wise, who treat him with amused tolerance because they know there is really no Santa Claus.

But *he* believes in Santa Claus. To him Santa Claus is the dapper departmental manager who, the other day, walked appraisingly down the line of men waiting outside an office.

Wrinkled faces, old eyes with still a gleam of hope, cracked yet polished shoes, shabby but almost desperately well-creased suits were the uniform of that line.

And the manager picked *him* out for the job of the store Santa Claus. It was, perhaps, because his rubicund face looked so jolly—it had been lined and reddened by wind and rain in his incessant search for work.

That departmental manager was all that Santa Claus should be to old Joe, when he chose him as Santa Claus for the store and gave him a month's employment after he had spent the other eleven calling hopelessly at the Labour Exchange.

And there are thousands of others like Joe, long unemployed, on whom Santa Claus has called already.

To 75,000 workless throughout the country Santa appears in the form of a brief, formal note from the General Post Office asking them to begin work as temporary postmen and sorters for the Christmas "rush" period.

There are another 250,000 workless whose fears of a dismal Christmas are banished by gaining casual employment in the shops as counter assistants and packers.

MUSICIANS, thrown idle by the "talkies," are taking up their instruments again to play to dancers in hotels and boarding-houses.

Waiters and barmaids who have not worked since the summer season return to the resorts to serve the increasing number of families who do not stay at home for Christmas.

Unemployed men who can drive lorries and vans are being recruited to help overburdened transport services in carrying seasonable goods from warehouse to shop.

They're all in Santa's army, 500,000 of them throughout the country called back from the drabness of unemployment to help in making Christmas a jolly time for other people.

At most of the big stores Father Christmas will be a familiar figure. Not because of his traditional cloak and beard but because the man who wears them has been there before.

Welcoming the children to a "grotto" in Oxford Street, London, is a man who has filled the rôle for thirty-seven years. Another, now beaming benevolently on the crowds in a big Manchester store, has been a Santa Claus for forty-three years. They are the professionals.

BUT in the smaller stores the seasonable figure is chosen haphazardly from the ranks of the unemployed. They queue up, striving to look cheerful, while a store executive dispassionately assesses the ability of each to fit the part.

Sixty-seven-year-old Herbert, now to be seen shaking hands with the children in a South London store, has waited for years to make good as a Santa Claus.

There are hardly any other jobs he can get at his age, though he was once a master plumber.

To him the wage of £2 10s. a week is princely after living for most of the year on his old age pension and little else.

"Strange," says Herbert, "that, with all my skilled knowledge, I should have to depend on my looks to get a job." He says it without bitterness, as becomes a Santa Claus.

Many of the 75,000 men taken by the Post Office have done the job of temporary postman or sorter before, and their names are picked out from a register compiled at previous Christmases.

But, of course, there are hundreds of new recruits, too, for the number of parcels and cards you send increases every year.

Before they can take their part in delivering the post the new men must go to school.

In London, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool and other big centres classes are held to teach these casual workers how to sort letters and how to deliver them without wasting time.

After closing hours the lights are burning in the big shops up and down the country. Although the last customer has gone, there is still buying and selling going on along the counters.

It is only mimicry, designed to show the extra assistants who are being employed during the Christmas period how to deal with the crowds of shoppers who will be elbowing their way to the counters.

One store, which normally employs 2,000 assistants, has taken on another 1,000 to cope with the rush.

Directing the flow of customers on the "one-way traffic" principle is adopted almost universally by departmental shops, and this work calls for skilled men.

EX-POLICEMEN, with their remembrance of sorting out a tangle of vehicles at crossroads, are usually chosen.

And there is another kind of casual worker employed by the stores at Christmas whose intentions towards certain people are not at all benevolent.

He is the store detective, specially engaged to keep an eye on the pickpockets and sneak thieves who seek a harvest among the careless, laughing crowds of shoppers.

He mingles with the customers, as if he were one of them, but he never looks at the gaily piled counter. His eye is always on the faces—and hands—of those who pass him.

He knows all the old offenders well, and from the number of them who appear in the police courts during the weeks before and after Christmas you can judge what a useful member he is of the Santa Claus Army.

Wanted!

(*Continued from page 22*)

meals at any hour; and each constable has his own bedroom, with bedside lights.

During his second year the probationer constable is diverted to a duty which is known as being "on attachment." This is probably the most interesting and instructive time he will ever spend in the police.

He becomes in turn a detective, jailer, and a warrant officer in a metropolitan police court.

After this he is transferred to the finger-print department and record office of Scotland Yard, and later works in the radio patrol cars of the Flying Squad.

As soon as he is confirmed in his appointment as a constable the young man is given £3 7s. 6d. a week pay, with quarters, or a maintenance allowance, uniform and free medical attendance.

He returns to Peel House only when he is ready to take a refresher course to enable him to qualify for promotion.

But he must not marry—without the consent of the Commissioner—until he has completed four years' approved service.

Throughout his service as a policeman a graduate of Peel House must remember the "old school motto":

"Courtesy and consideration to the public is a first essential in all police duties."

Those words are emblazoned on a plaque which the policemen of tomorrow pass every day as they file to their lessons on crime and the frailties which lead their fellow-men to break the law.

AT YOUR SHERRY PARTY

Offer this fine dry Sherry . . .

SANDEMAN APITIV

per 6/- bottle

Another really "luxury" wine is

BROWN BANG

per 9/- bottle

Other Wines from 5/-

SANDEMAN SHERRY

HIS WIFE DESERVED A MEDAL

We're moving next week, Betty. It's a lovely little house with a separate play room for Johnny
THINKS: WE COULD DO WITH A BIGGER PLACE. I WISH PETER COULD MAKE THE GARAGE PAY
MEANWHILE PETER'S IN TROUBLE
Unless you can pay off these mortgages on your garage in the next six months, I'm afraid we'll have to take over your business, Mr. Graham
THINKS: WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO BETTY AND THE BABY. OH, IF ONLY I DIDN'T FEEL SO TIRED ALL THE TIME, I MIGHT PULL THROUGH
I can't make things go. I'd better throw my hand in
We're going to fight to the last ditch, darling, to hold that business. It's just that you're run-down and tired always, Peter....
THAT SAME EVENING BETTY SAW THE DOCTOR
Yes, he even wakes tired, doctor
From what you've told me, Mrs. Graham, I'd say your husband's trouble is Night Starvation. You see, even at night we go on using up energy in heartbeats, breathing and other automatic actions. In his case this has no doubt also led to an excess of acid waste products in the blood. All this causes him to wake tired and feel no good at his work. Recent tests have proved that Horlicks is what people need for that condition
BETTY SAW TO IT THAT HER HUSBAND HAD HIS HORLICKS EVERY NIGHT
SIX WEEKS LATER PETER FELT A NEW MAN
The front axle... O.K. Sir, I'll be down in 10 minutes with the breakdown van
SIX MONTHS LATER
Thanks to you, Betty, the mortgage is paid off - the garage is ours. You deserve a medal
THINKS: HORLICKS DID DO WONDERS FOR PETER

Doctors and scientists use Horlicks in recent tests

AN AMAZING series of tests has been recently made on men and women. Doctors wanted to find out why some people always wake tired, feel run-down, "nervy," not up to their jobs.

Groups of these people slept under test conditions and each night at regular intervals blood was taken from their arms. It was tested and found in most cases to contain an excess of acid waste products such as carbon dioxide (CO_2). This excess acid waste was activating their brain and nerves, which means that though their bodies were sound asleep, their brain and nerves lay wide awake.

When the doctors gave these same people Horlicks last thing at night, it was found that the Horlicks not only replaced energy used up in heartbeats, breathing and other automatic actions, but it also brought about the removal of excess acid waste products. The result was that these people woke refreshed next morning. Taking Horlicks regularly at bedtime, they soon regained their full vitality. Start taking Horlicks tonight. Prices from 2/-, at all chemists and grocers. Mixers 6d. and 1/-.

for present times the handy **VACDUSTER**

Here's an idea! Give her this—welcome gift of leisure this Christmas

The Marvel in Miniature!

HOW? Easy! — with a Dudley-Electric VACDUSTER. Even if she already has an ordinary size vac. she'll appreciate this nifty little marvel. Perhaps all the more!

For tackling the awkward jobs like dusting upholstered furniture, or travel rugs, stair-carpets, etc., the VACDUSTER is just the thing. Like its big brothers, it brings a strong heart to the task and has a big appetite for work.

A new member of an industrious family (there are 5 models in the C.W.S. Dudley-Electric range) the VACDUSTER is latest in design and finish. Body of shockproof bakelite in mottled red, black, or heather. Complete!

4 Gns

Because I'm a Co-operator

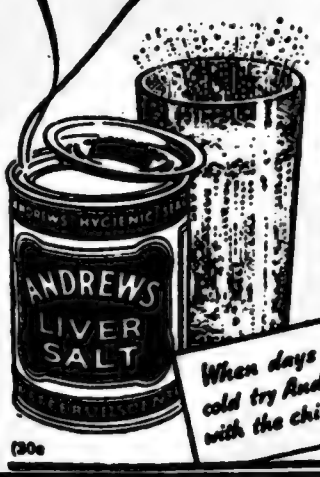
I'm buying my vac. where I buy my other household goods—at the Co-operative Stores. You can do the same with confidence—Dudley-Electric is C.W.S.

DUDLEY *Electric*

The Co-operators' **VACUUM CLEANERS**

THE DAILY 'HELP'

Excuse me— Andrews for Inner Cleanliness



Inner Cleanliness! There, indeed, you have the secret of health! For Inner Cleanliness means the complete and natural purification of the system. You—and every member of your family—can achieve this happy state by taking Andrews regularly.

Immediately you drink your bubbling tonic glass of Andrews it cleans the tongue and refreshes the mouth. Next, it settles the stomach and corrects acidity. Then Andrews wakes up the liver and checks any tendency to biliousness. And finally—to make your Inner Cleanliness complete—it clears the bowels gently and efficiently.

Andrews is the gradual and natural corrective of constipation. Get a tin to-day. 4 ozs. 9d., 8 ozs. 1/4.

ANDREWS LIVER SALT

(30c)

You need never hesitate to buy goods advertised in "John Bull"—they are all Guaranteed.

The "John Bull" Guarantee appears on page 31

AARON'S ROD

Emmanuel seized Rachel by the arm and stood before her in the portal

Short Story by Claire Lewis

THREE things were precious to Emmanuel Aaron: his granddaughter Rachel, his jewels, and his long, old-fashioned cane with the crystal handle.

Rachel he loved with all the fierceness of a man of seventy for the last bud on his withered family tree. His jewels symbolised the summit he had reached after that long and weary climb from a hovel in the Warsaw ghetto to a mansion in Vienna.

The cane? That was Emmanuel's oldest and dearest vanity.

He had been born a cripple, and, as a boy, had used a broomhandle for a crutch. How he had hated that piece of rough, splintery wood, its end splayed out by the jagged cobblestones!

With the first real money he had earned, Emmanuel had bought the cane with the crystal handle, and had learned to use it so dexterously that he could almost conceal the affliction which made him different from other men.

AS he prospered, he could have bought himself a hundred, a thousand finer canes. But no. He stuck to his old friend.

And as, with its aid, he made that slow climb from the ghetto to greatness, he came to look upon it as a kind of talisman.

It leant in a corner near his high stool when, as a humble clerk, he pored over a ledger. Every now and again he would look up and get a thrill of pleasure from the way the sunlight glinted on the crystal handle.

When he rose to the rank of a merchant prince in Vienna, he had a special rack built for it at the corner of his desk. He would brandish it like a field marshal's baton when he issued orders to his employees; and because it seemed so much a part of the financial miracles he wrought from day to day, they christened it "Aaron's Rod."

Well, it was an apt name, and Emmanuel enjoyed the joke as much as anybody.

The years brought him great happiness and great sorrow. He saw his mansion filled with laughing guests after the marriage of his only son, the boy whose mother had died to give him birth.

Leaning on his cane with the crystal handle, he stood on the steps and waved the young couple away on their honeymoon.

He saw the mansion stilled, when, at the end of the war, an influenza epidemic claimed his son and daughter-in-law as its victims, and left him with their little child.

When he picked up his cane to hobble to the cemetery, he thought he had known all the suffering and hardship a man could bear.

True, after that, there were years of peace, years in which he saw his granddaughter grow to womanhood, and his fortunes recover from the strife which had shaken the world.

Emmanuel Aaron began to know what it was like to be happy again. Age simplified his desires.

If he could hear Rachel singing, know that the workers in his factories and shops were prosperous and content, and be complimented occasionally on his fine white beard and the skilful way he covered his lameness by the use of the cane with the crystal handle — then Emmanuel wanted nothing more.

Sometimes friends would chide him, tell him that because of his wealth and position he should not bury himself in the big house, but should take more interest in politics and the affairs of the capital.

"Big things are happening, Aaron, and you have big responsibilities," they would say.

Emmanuel only laughed and gave them all the same answer:

"Big responsibilities I have already—to see that all those good people I employ are kept busy and earning good wages. We Jews are great family men, you know, and after my granddaughter, Rachel, the men and women who work for me are my children.

"Politics? Bah! It's trade we need in Austria, not words and intrigues! Go away, I don't want to listen to your silly chatter."

BUT there came a time when Emmanuel had to listen, for the streets of the city were filled nightly with shouting people, and the clamour of their voices reached even to the room where he sat with his jewel-cases on the table before him, polishing and examining the stones.

"What is it, Rachel? What are they shouting in the streets?"

"They're saying that the Nazis are coming to our country, grandfather, and that all the Jews will be killed. Oh, can't we go away while there is still time? I'm so frightened, grandfather. . . ."

"You're being foolish, child. Go to bed and sleep. Those people out there are only hooligans, too lazy to work. That is why they talk so much. The real people, like those who work for me, are at home having their suppers and playing with their children. They don't want to kill the Jews."

But, when he was left alone, Emmanuel did not go on polishing his jewels. He left them heaped on the table and went to the window.

PARTING the curtains, he opened it and leaned out to listen to the voices in the streets.

There was a savage note in them that took him back across the years to the ghetto in Warsaw, and the day when his father, his face covered with blood, had come running in, gathered the family together and locked them in the cellar.

Perhaps Rachel had been right. The crowd always bayed like that before the pogrom.

Emmanuel closed the window and went back to his jewels. But he did not return them to their cases. Taking a penknife from his pocket, he prised them out of their settings, scooped everything up and hobbled down to the kitchen.

It was deserted. The staff had long been in bed.

Emmanuel lifted the lid off the stove, stirred the fire until it was glowing, and then began to drop the settings on the coals.

"Such a pity!" he muttered. "Such a waste! Still, as my father always said, it is better to make sure. And he was a good Jew."

A piece of gold filagree, which had once held a queen's pendant, slipped from his fingers and fell into a corner by the fender. He looked for something with which to scrape it into the open, saw a broom and used that.

WHEN he put the broom down, he stood staring at it for a while, for the rough wood of its handle had brought back another memory—another memory of the ghetto, where he had used a broom as a crutch.

"So," he said to himself, "twice I am reminded. I think I was wise to make sure . . . yes, I was wise. . . . We Jews are born to suffer."

He looked again into the stove. The last of the settings had melted, and the coals were still gleaming red.

As red as the dawn, which, a few hours later, he saw rise over the city. . . .

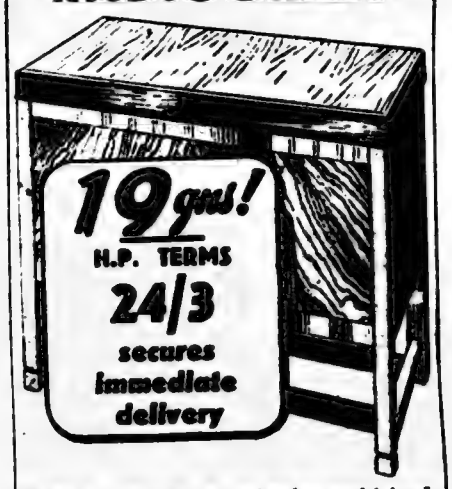
With the morning came the tramp of marching feet, the rumble of tanks, the shouts of captains, and once more the

(Continued on page 28)

Special Xmas attraction!

MARCONI

All-Wave Superhet RADIOGRAM



Without a radiogram you are in other people's hands for your Christmas music and entertainment—this is one of many occasions during the year when only a radiogram can keep things going all the time. Make a point of seeing this Marconiphone 19 guinea all-wave superhet radiogram—without question the finest value in radio to-day—a model which ensures for you first-class radio reception and gramophone reproduction for years to come.

PRIORITY COUPON

Fill in your name and address below and post to The Marconiphone Company Ltd., Radio House, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.1, and we will ensure that everything possible is done to secure delivery of this model for you in good time for Christmas.

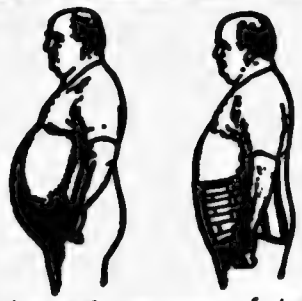
NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

THE SPENCER BELT FOR MEN

A Perfect Support for RUPTURE, OBESITY, STRAINED BACK, HERNIA.



Note improved appearance of stout man after putting on a Spencer Belt.

The Spencer Belt is individually designed to meet the needs of the man who is to wear it.

Note from the illustration how broad the back is, giving the maximum of comfort and support. A common defect in belts for men is that the back is so narrow that it causes a strain on the back muscles, increasing discomfort instead of giving relief.

Men who do heavy work, and who suffer from backache or pains resulting from sacro-iliac strain, need the Spencer Sacro-iliac Belt.

Spencer Belts are very serviceable, for they are made of superior materials, and are guaranteed never to lose their shape.

Write Spencer Corsets Ltd., 44, Britannia Road, Banbury, Oxfordshire, for Booklet, and for name of nearest local Corsetiere.

SPENCER

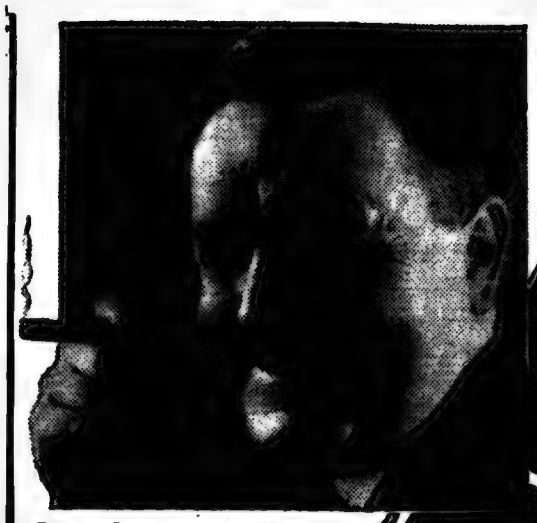
Individually designed Foundation Garments and Surgical Supports.

"We create a design especially for you."

Branch Offices and Salons:

LONDON: 4 & 5, Old Bond St., W.1. Tel. Regent 6206
GLASGOW: 86, St. Vincent St., C.2. Central 3232
BIRMINGHAM: 67, Newhall St., 3. Central 7125
LIVERPOOL: 19, Church St., 1. Royal 4021
EDINBURGH: 30a, George St., 2. Edinburgh 25693
BRISTOL: 44a, Queen's Rd., Clifton, 8. Bristol 24801
MANCHESTER: 38a, King St., & 23, South King St., 2. BLAckfriars 9075
LEEDS: 3, Bond St., 1. Leeds 26586

Lady be good
to your husband!



In pocket cases as illustrated also in cartons 5 for 10d. and 10 for 1/8 and in cedar boxes of 25, 50 & 100.

Make it a MANIKIN Xmas

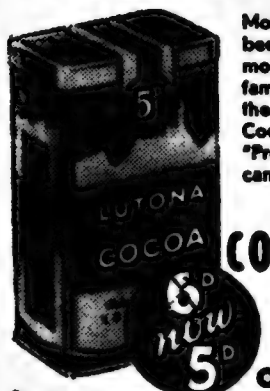
POCKET CASES (as illustrated) 15 for 2/6 30 for 5/-

reyds

Here's health!

DRINK CO-OP COCOAS

NOW ONLY 5D PER QTR



Mother sees that little Joan and Granded too never shall go to bed without their nightcap of Co-op "Lutona" Cocoa. And in the mornings "Lutona" Cocoa, as the breakfast beverage, sends the family off to work warmed and nourished. At only 5d. per ½ lb. it is the greatest food bargain ever. VALUABLE FREE GIFTS. Save "Lutona" Cocoa coupons for Free Gifts and Free Holiday Rail Travel. Co-op "Prescription" Tea Coupons and those from certain other Co-op blends can be combined for the same gifts. Remember—you send no money.

LUTONA — as Good as the Best, Cheaper than the Rest — LUTONA

CO-OP "*Lutona*" COCOAS

"Lutona" Matured, Mild or "Silver Badge"

OBTAINABLE FROM CO-OP STORES EVERYWHERE

Issued by The English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited, London, Luton, Manchester, etc.

MADE IN ENGLAND

Advt. of The General Electric Co. Ltd., Magnet House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2

Rise out of that miserable cold-weakened self . . .

HALL'S WINE hastens recovery from Colds, Coughs Influenza

Colds, coughs and chills pull you down seriously, make you miserable and unattractive! Break that vicious circle of "cold after cold' with Hall's Wine! Thirty seconds after your first wineglassful, that lifeless, shivery feeling retreats as a flood of new vitality pours into you.

Why Hall's Wine acts so swiftly

Hall's Wine ***goes immediately into your blood-stream.*** Besides refortifying your blood, it improves your circulation; the energising and tonic elements of Hall's Wine are carried throughout your body, thoroughly strengthening you to throw off your illness ***and resist further attack.*** Get yourself a bottle of Hall's Wine today; get well quickly, and keep well.

HALL'S WINE

Strengthens the blood and fortifies the nerves

From Wine Merchants and Grocers and Chemists with wine licences. Large bottle 5/6, smaller size 3/3. Stephen Smith & Co. Ltd., Bow, London, E.3

(123)

For Stubborn Colds

Melt a spoonful of Vick brand Vapour-Rub in boiling water and inhale the steaming vapours for several minutes. This quickly clears the head of mucus, loosens phlegm, relieves coughing, eases the breathing. At bedtime rub Vick on throat, chest, and back. Then it has a double action: (1) through the skin like a poultice and (2) the heat of your body releases the medicated vapours that you breathe in for hours while you sleep. By morning the worst of the cold is over.

VICK VAPOUR RUB

FURS—XMAS BARGAINS!

10/- DOWN secures fine quality Musquash Coney Swagger Coat offered by Bayden's on page 33. Post the coupon in the announcement for new catalogue giving full particulars of this and other wonderful Fur bargains, or write, mentioning "John Bull," to G. A. Bayden, Ltd., 184, Regent Street, London, W.1.

Aaron's Rod

(continued from previous page)

savage roar of the crowd. The Nazis had come to Vienna.

Emmanuel rang for his valet. There was no answer. Perhaps the fellow had overslept. He would go and wake him.

But the man's room was empty, the bed had not been slept in, and all his clothes were gone. It was the same in the rooms of the other servants. They, too, had fled.

Strange that he did not hear them go! They must have been very quiet, like thieves—or people who knew they had betrayed a trust.

Still, he could hardly blame them. If the Nazis were going to persecute the Jews, they would also persecute those who worked for Jews.

EMMANUEL wondered if he should tell Rachel about the servants, then decided against it. There was no need to alarm her, and after all they might come back. It might all be just a scare.

He would take another look at the streets, this time from the steps.

When he opened the big double doors, everything seemed quiet outside. There was a crowd at the far end of the street being harangued by a man in a brown-shirt who was waving a swastika banner, but that was nothing to be excited about in these times.

He turned to re-enter the house, and then he saw it. The word was daubed in crude white painted letters on the panels of both doors: "JUDE."

Already he had been marked down!

He closed and bolted the doors behind him, and, as he did so, Rachel ran down the stairs, white faced, her eyes filled with tears.

"So . . . you know about the servants. Now, child, this is no time for weeping. You and I must be brave. We have got to leave here at once."

"But, grandfather, your factory, all your money, your jewels . . . you can't leave them behind."

"They are not so valuable, Rachel, that I would not lose them all to save one of your hairs."

Together they went towards the staircase, but they did not reach it.

Crash! The windows of the hall shattered. Stones fell all about them. One struck Emmanuel on the shoulder and made him stagger. Rachel screamed.

Outside the mob began to chant: "Down with the Jew! Death to the Jew," a thousand voices blended into one thunderous crescendo of racial hate.

Suddenly the doors bulged, and flew open. Led by the Brownshirt with the swastika banner, the rabble poured in, smashing furniture, tearing pictures from the walls.

Emmanuel seized Rachel by the arm and with surprising strength, whisked her to the door which led to the kitchen, then stood before her in the portal. He faced the Brownshirt.

"Come out, Jew, come out and lick my boots. You and the girl! We're not going to kill you . . . just yet. First we want those jewels of yours. You see, we know all about them. You can thank this fellow for that!"

AND he dragged Emmanuel's valet from the crowd. The man cringed, began to bluster at his master.

"You ground me down for years, treated me like a slave, paid me no wages, gave me food that pigs wouldn't eat! But that's all changed now. Me and my comrades——."

"Stop!" Emmanuel's voice cut across the clamour. He held his cane at arm's length, his beard jutted out, his face was stern, full of command.

Another Aaron must have looked like that when he faced the court of Pharaoh.

"Hans," he said to the valet, "all that you have said is lies. I treated you well, as I treated every man whom I trusted. And as you have lied to these people about me, so you have lied to them about my jewels. I have no jewels. I sold them long ago to keep my factories going during the depression, to keep you and hundreds like you in work. . . ."

"Don't believe him! Don't believe him!" Hans was sobbing, for the Brownshirt had him by the throat.

"It is he who is lying, not I. I saw him polishing them late last night when I escaped from this Jew's den. He did not know I saw, because I looked through the key-hole. He would have beaten me. . . ."

THE Brownshirt let him go and he slipped to the floor.

"Well, Jew, are you going to part with your treasure—or shall we take your granddaughter? Perhaps you love your jewels more than your own flesh and blood. That's what I would expect from a Jew. Come out of your corner, rat!"

Things happened quickly. As the Brownshirt sprang forward, Emmanuel brought his cane down across the man's bullet head.

The blow struck the Brownshirt to his knees, but the cane snapped in two and its crystal handle shattered against the wall. There was a shower of glittering fragments.

From the back of the mob came a cry: "The jewels! He had them hidden in his cane! After them, or they'll all be lost!"

Before the Brownshirt could rise and seize the old man, he was overwhelmed, buried beneath a pile of struggling bodies.

Men trampled on women; women gouged men's faces with their nails; bit at hands which tried to grasp the sparkling fragments littering the floor.

"Quick, Rachel," shouted Emmanuel, "into the kitchen."

The next moment he was locking the door behind them.

"Now, girl, run quickly and get out the car. Don't bother about me. Just pass me that old broom, and I'll move as fast as you. I've not forgotten how I used one for a crutch when I was a boy in the ghetto. . . ."

Eight hours later, they pulled up across the frontier, safe.

"Oh, grandfather," sobbed Rachel, "we've lost everything, everything. All your beautiful jewels. The beasts! The brutes!"

Emmanuel smiled and soothed her. "No Rachel, we have not lost everything. Pass me that old broom. Thank you, now look. . . ."

He twisted the handle out, and from the cavity poured a little stream of glistening stones into his hand.

"Here are my jewels. I made this hiding place for them last night after you had gone to bed. Better make sure—that was what my father taught me long ago, and he was a good Jew."

Rachel was bewildered. "But—but what were they fighting for, then?" she asked.

Emmanuel chuckled. "I thought you knew. But then, of course, you were behind me and could not see.

"Those blind fools battled with one another for bits of broken glass, my dear, bits of broken glass . . . the bits of the broken handle of my cane.

"It served me well, that cane, and that was a good name they gave it, 'Aaron's Rod.' For in the end it worked a real miracle, one that saved our lives."

The Human Machine

False Prophets

WHEN you feel thoroughly depressed, when you feel that your burdens are too heavy to be borne and that nothing matters any more, take a look back through history.

People have thought everything hopeless before. Times without number there have been prophecies of the utmost gloom about the results of this action or of that: yet somehow events falsified the prophecies: somehow things didn't turn out as the gloom-mongers declared they would.

Life's like that.

★

When the first railway tunnel was proposed, an "expert" witness said to a House of Commons Committee: "No person will desire to be shut out from the daylight with a consciousness that he has a superincumbent weight of earth above him sufficient to crush him in case of accidents."

But he was wrong. People did so desire—and the accidents due to a "superincumbent weight of earth" didn't happen.

When the slave trade was abolished the prophets said it would "render the City of London one scene of bankruptcy and ruin by striking at £7,000,000 of property and, by ruining the colonies and destroying an essential nursery of seamen, give up at a single stroke the dominion of the seas."

Well, you know the answer to that one!

★

Just over 100 years ago anyone who stole 5s. from a dwelling-house risked death by hanging. When it was proposed to repeal this law, the Lord Chief Justice solemnly said: "Repeal this law, and no man can trust himself for an hour out of doors without the most alarming apprehensions that, on his return, every vestige of his property will be swept off by some hardened robber."

And you know the answer to that one, too!

It has always been the same. Nothing ever turns out quite as black as it is painted by the imagination. And, when things are not as good as they might be—just remember that they never were!

Last Chance

Special arrangements have been made by which it is hoped to ensure that all applications received up to December 23 for JOHN BULL'S Free Christmas Gift will be dealt with before Christmas.

Readers desiring to avail themselves of our offer are advised to send in their applications at once and so avoid the last-minute rush.

Two FREE Gift Vouchers appear on Page 33. One will be accepted as 2s. 9d. cash in part payment of JOHN BULL'S superb 5s. 6d. Writing Set—the other will be accepted as 7s. 6d. cash in part payment of JOHN BULL'S 12s. 6d. Writing Set De Luxe.

You may have one or both—keep a set for yourself—give a Set to a friend—but remember time is pressing and supplies are limited.

MECCANO

EVERY OUTFIT BIGGER—so that you can build more models. EVERY MODEL BETTER—so that you can get more fun making and playing with each one. Boys, these thrilling improvements have made Meccano more than ever the greatest hobby in the world!

Bridges, towers, cranes, aeroplanes, ships—Meccano parts make them all. Think of the endless fun you could have building and working these magnificent models.

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Prices of Complete Outfits from 3/- to 255/-

A fine new Catalogue—FREE to boys

You must have this complete 72-page catalogue. Get it from your dealer to-day, or write to us for a copy, enclosing the names and addresses of three of your chums. The catalogue contains full details of the complete range of Meccano Quality Toys.

MECCANO LIMITED (DEPT. 37),
BINNS ROAD, LIVERPOOL, 13.

IT'S REAL—IT WORKS—IT'S MECCANO

• A GREAT GIFT!

GIVE Brylcreem this Christmas—a welcome gift to every man because Brylcreem is the finest hair dressing in the world.

IN BOTTLES AND TUBES 1/-

Larger Bottles 1'6, 1'9, 2'6.

So don't forget to give BRYLCREEM too!

The County Perfumery Co., N. Circular Rd., W. Twyford, N.W.10. reyJs C. 549.

You buy with CONFIDENCE when you buy through "JOHN BULL"

The "John Bull" Guarantee appears on page 31

EAT WHAT YOU LIKE

GASTRITIS, ACIDITY AND PAIN AFTER EATING DISAPPEAR LIKE MAGIC

YOU need not suffer a Single Day longer from Mealtime Discomfort. Sufferers from Acidity, Heartburn, Sour Stomach, Fermentative Dyspepsia, Gastritis, or Gastric Catarrh, Wind, Flatulence, Fulness after meals, and all forms of acid indigestion have been cured by **Shadforth Acidity Tablets (No. 1,077).** Popularly known as "White Lions." Why restrict yourself to a narrow diet? Eat in moderation and enjoy your favourite dishes without unpleasant after-effects. This prescription is non-purgative. You feel easier in five minutes. Note the steady improvement, clean tongue; moist mouth and throat; flatulence vanished, long sour face replaced by such broad, sweet smiles that your friends marvel at the magic change. Send at once for "White Lions." They give prompt relief.

Price **6d.** (24), **1/4** (72), **2/6** (144), **7/-** (432 Lions), with directions.

Mr. Shadforth's book (No. J.B. 314) on Treating of Digestive Troubles will be sent post free.

POSITIVELY the World's Greatest Remedy for Acid Indigestion.

HEART TROUBLE

Don't Risk a Collapse

DOES your heart palpitate? Are you tired from morning to night? Sleepless yet needing sleep? Without appetite, yet needing the strength which foods can bring? You must not go on like this! Take "Blue Lion Fox Nuts," the modern tonic which pulls you together in a few hours. Frazzled nerves full of vim; gloomy thoughts gone; faith strengthened, hope renewed before nightfall; life worth living to-morrow. It is the Doctor's Best Tonic for heart, nerves, stomach and kidneys—it prevents palpitation, flutterings, faintness, tremblings, run-down condition, stops your falling-to-pieces feeling. Don't imagine yourself into an illness; have a good rest, take this tonic and be normal in a few days.

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Hearty Health

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If you want relief from spells of hard breathing, choking and wheezing that makes you gasp for breath, try Himrod's Cure. It has brought relief to sufferers for over sixty five years.

A Doctor writes:—
"I have prescribed Himrod's with unbelieveable results"

Insist on the genuine

HIMROD'S CURE

"Tell Your Child the Truth!" wrote Humanist recently. Now he says—

One day he will want to know where he came from. What shall he be told?

Modern Mothers Agree With Me

WHEN I wrote about "Tell Your Child the Truth," some weeks ago, there followed the heaviest post-bag for many months.

With only one exception, all the writers approved of what I said.

Modern mothers agree that children should be told the facts of their existence.

Here is a letter which is typical of dozens:—

"When my little girl asked me where she came from, I told her. She was very interested and seemed quite satisfied.

"That was when she was about five or six; but now she is nearly twelve, and is beginning to be curious again.

"She realises that the coming of babies is connected with marriage, and that the father has a share as well as the mother. I feel that she ought not to be left in ignorance any longer, but this next task seems much more difficult.

"I am quite sure that hundreds of other parents are faced with the same problem, and we should all be grateful if you would deal with this subject as candidly and helpfully as you did with the first."

The young child is quite satisfied to discover that she was born of her mother, and the father is apparently overlooked.

The mystery of sex-relationship does not usually dawn upon the average child until he or she is approaching adolescence.

Here, again, the truth must be told. If it is not explained to a boy by a responsible adult—his father, teacher, or club-leader—he will learn it from other boys.

He will learn it in the wrong way. Possibly by some foul-mouthed lad who regards it as a nasty joke.

The result of this is more serious than we imagine. He grows up with the feeling that sex-love is a sort of dirty secret, and throughout his adult life he will have the haunting feeling that he is guilty of something thoroughly unpleasant.

This sense of guilt is the cause of an incalculable amount of unhappiness. Many a marriage is spoilt by it.

The case of a girl is often worse.

NOT only has ignorance led many girls into trouble, but it has also made the early days of their married life incredibly unhappy, and has sometimes been the direct cause of suicide.

But before I say more I should like to quote another letter, this time written by a man:—

"Your article was a step in the right direction, but does not go far enough. Why delegate the duty of telling children the facts of life to parents who have themselves received no proper education in sex matters, and who are badly equipped both as regards reliable knowledge and the ability to impart it in a delicate and tactful manner. Parents, moreover, shirk the unpleasant task.

"Among the working and middle classes the children are too often left to 'pick it up,' a lot of it not over-clean, tainted with suggestiveness and filth.

"Obstacles are placed in the way of their obtaining the knowledge they need. Books are rarely recommended by the clergy or the leaders of youth movements.

"In many cases educational books on sex can only be bought from shops which the well-brought-up young man or woman would be ashamed to enter."

All this is, unfortunately, only too true. Public libraries ought to have sanely written and illuminating books on sex-knowledge, and they should not be hidden away on dark or inaccessible shelves.

But the writer introduces another problem. If young people are to be told, who is the right person to tell them?

MANY adults are quite unfitted to undertake the work. An under-sexed mother who tells her daughters will, unconsciously, convey her own feeling of embarrassment and reluctance; an over-sexed mother will never leave the subject alone, so that it becomes a mania.

Of course, the same applies to fathers and sons.

The headmaster may give special lessons in school; but if he cannot do it naturally he had better leave it to the teacher of biology, or the teacher of physical training.

Girls respect and admire the "Gym mistress," and she may be the most suitable person on the staff. In my opinion, there should be at least one sensible married woman in every girls' school, and she could do the explaining better than a single woman.

But why make a formal lesson about the subject? The best instruction is given casually, a bit at a time, and only when the children are ready for it. If it can be discussed in private conversation all the better.

One thing is of paramount importance: whoever undertakes to do the enlightening must be a man or woman who has the respect and confidence of the children.

Parents who feel that they cannot do it without a sense of guilt or distress can always give the child a book.

When a boy or girl leaves home further instruction is necessary. There is need for still more when they begin courting. And still more before marriage.

But these subjects must be dealt with in another article.

A young wife sends me the following letter:—

"As you are a man, I would like your advice on this subject. If you had a perfectly healthy wife, and she was very fond of children, and you loved her deeply, would you refuse to give her them?

"I wish I had come to an understanding with my husband before marriage. It would have saved me a lot of unhappiness in later years.

"When I married it was for (a) love, (b) a home to care for, and (c) children of my own.

"My friends think I am lucky—money, a nice home, and one child. Perhaps I should be satisfied, but somehow I feel I have wasted my life in not having more children.

"My husband gets crazy if I mention the subject and shuts me up like a book. Do you think he can really care for me as he says he does?"

THE same post brought the other sort of letter—from a man who adores children but his wife refuses to have any. It's a queer, tangled world we live in; and there is no subject which causes so much heart-burning and misery as this business of sex.

Children are a responsibility and an expense, but married life without them is rather like a garden without flowers.

I have just room for a short letter from a young man.

"I am twenty-two years old and my girl is twenty," he writes. "We have known each other for years, and a short time ago I asked her to marry me. She has consented, and I know she loves me very much.

"I have never mentioned sex to her, and should like to know whether I ought to do so. Please advise me about this as I want to do the right thing."

Of course he ought to discuss the subject. I don't suggest that the couple should be always talking about it, but the man ought to be certain that the girl knows the meaning of marriage, and also whether she wants children.

"Humanist" invites you to seek his advice when you are worried or perplexed. Address your envelope to 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, enclosing a stamped envelope for reply. £1 1s. is paid for each letter quoted.

HIGHLIGHTS in Christmas Presents

Drydex presents for a beaming Christmas

"Still keep going when the rest have stopped"

Obtainable from any reputable dealer or Exide Service Station. The Chloride Electrical Storage Co. Ltd. (Exide & Drydex Batteries), Exide Works, Clifton Junction, near Manchester. Also at London, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Glasgow, and Belfast.

Do your appetite a good turn —use

H.P.

9d. and 3d. SAUCE

BEDRIDDEN BY PAIN!

"My kidneys and back were so bad that I had to stay in bed. After three weeks of Bole's Gin Pills I was up and around again and feel as strong and well as ever I used to be."—Mrs. M. R. From chemists 1/3 and 3/- or post free from Newbery and Phillips, Ltd., 31/32a, Banner St., London, E.C.1. Write for FREE Sample!

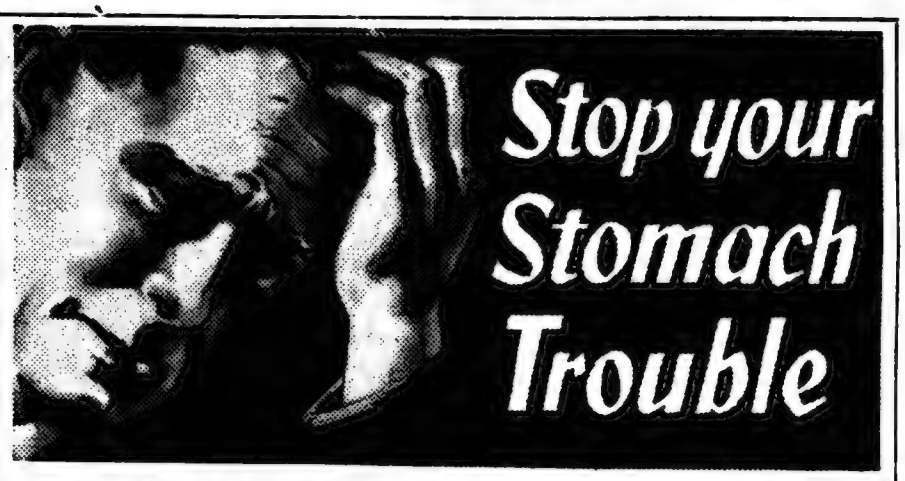
A GOOD PIPE TOBACCO FOR 9d. ONLY

Here is the name!

A REVELATION at 9d. per ounce. Medium-strength brown leaf, cool and lasting. Specially packed to preserve character and weight. At all tobacconists.

One-ounce moisture-proof packets **9d** *'Lucky Jim' Shag 1-ounce packets* 8d
Two-ounce tins **1/6**

GODFREY PHILLIPS LIMITED



Think what it would mean to you to eat just what you really enjoy without being afraid of pain and misery to follow! Or to revel in the freedom of not bothering at all about what you may or may not eat!

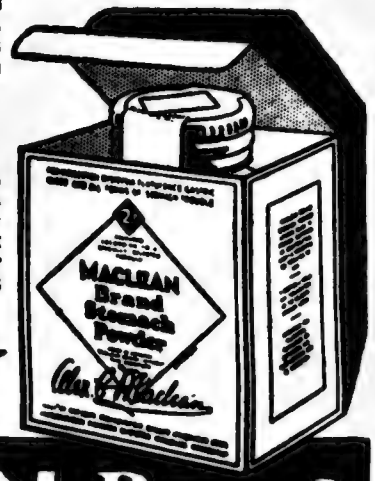
Perhaps you have deprived yourself of many of the good things of life for years. There is no reason why your stomach should make your life a misery any longer. The painful symptoms against which you have struggled can be gently and speedily stopped, and natural digestive action restored. All you need is a course of Maclean Brand Stomach Powder.

The perfectly balanced alkalies in this famous remedy quickly soothe and remove the pain and discomfort of even long-standing stomach disorder. They gently neutralise and correct the excess acidity which is usually the cause, and give you again the joy of a good digestion.

A Nurse's gratitude

Mrs. G. E. Thorpe, of Kent House Road, Beckenham, is one of thousands who have been freed from mealtime misery in that way. She writes: **"Three weeks ago I was a complete wreck with acute Indigestion of a very tiresome kind, for which I have had much treatment. After the first dose of Maclean Brand Stomach Powder I had relief, and each day improved. At the end of two weeks I felt better than I have been for a long time. I have been a nurse all my life. Now at 76, thanks to Maclean Brand Stomach Powder, I am feeling fine, hale, and hearty."**

Give yourself the same joyous freedom. Get a bottle of Maclean Brand Stomach Powder to-day. It must have the signature "Alex. C. Maclean." 1/3, 2/- and 5/- bottles, Powder or Tablets, and handy 9*d.* tins of Tablets for the pocket.



Look for the Signature *Alex. C. Maclean*

MACLEAN Brand Stomach Powder

Macleans Ltd., Great West Road, Brentford

"John Bull" Guarantee.

EVERY article advertised in "John Bull" carries with it a "money-back" guarantee:—

All foods, food products, toilet preparations, medicines and drugs, and other articles capable of a laboratory test which have been approved by our experts are marked— In the case of medicines and drugs we guarantee that if they are taken or applied according to the directions they will have no injurious effects.

Naturally this guarantee applies only to manufactured articles, but every care is taken to satisfy ourselves as to the bona-fides of all advertisements in "John Bull." Any complaint must reach us within one month from the appearance of the advertisement in "John Bull," and in the case of dispute the decision of our Managing Director shall be final.

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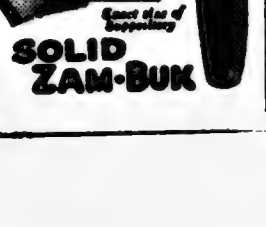
Painful PILES Banished by Zam-Buk

WHY should you suffer from the burning irritation, swelling and bleeding of piles (hæmorrhoids) when there's Zam-Buk? This world-famed herbal ointment has proved successful in thousands of cases often when an operation seemed the only escape.

Zam-Buk brand ointment brings relief and is wonderfully soothing; it has a contractive influence on the dilated veins, checks the bleeding and causes the piles to gradually disappear.

Zam-Buk also exerts a valuable antiseptic influence, thus preventing septic conditions arising where membranes are broken or inflamed. Don't suffer from piles a day longer—get a 1/3 box of Zam-Buk.



For Inward PILES

In addition to Zam-Buk ointment for external piles you can obtain Zam-Buk soluble Suppositories for inward use, 1/3 per box. Left in position at night they cure while you sleep.

Proof THAT MORGAN'S POMADE does RESTORE COLOUR TO GREY HAIR

An Ipswich user of Morgan's Pomade writes: "I have used Morgan's Pomade for treating Grey Hair to conform to its original colour, and the result has been remarkable. My hair was almost white, and before I had finished the first 1/9 jar it was dark brown, exactly as it was 20 years previously. It is helpful too in strengthening the growth."

Morgan's Pomade has been famous for restoring original colour to grey or faded hair for half a century. It is NOT A DYE. Never fails. Massage into hair roots. Beneficial to hair health and beauty. Frees scalp from choking dandruff.

1/9 and 3/3 per jar. (Post 3d. and 4d. extra. Foreign, 1/1 and 1/7 respectively). At Boots, Timothy Whites and Taylors, all Chemists, Hairdressers, Stores or direct.

MORGAN'S POMADE CO. LTD.,
1-7 Greenville Road, Upper Holloway, N.19

Marie Antoinette Shampoo cleanses, strengthens and beautifies the hair and removes dandruff. 3d. per packet or 1/6 per box of 7 packets.

MORGAN'S POMADE

Rough hands to-day? Snowfire Tablet heals them by to-morrow

3[D] 6[D] 7[D]

DOWN BY THE DOCKS

TOM REDFERN was a detective-inspector in the great cosmopolitan port where I lived.

He was young and good-looking, and he would make the heart of any girl of eighteen beat faster.

I was eighteen and Tom was my boy friend.

He had often promised to take me into the underworld of the city, but somehow I could never get him to keep that promise.

Always he had some other job to do.

Then one night I met him in a little Italian café on the waterfront.

"Take me along with you to-night," I pleaded.

"No," he said, "no, not to-night. You never can tell what might happen."

He glanced at his watch. "I've got to be going now, my darling. Take care of yourself—and stick to the main streets. They're not very pleasant people in this part of the world."

No sooner had he left the café than I decided to follow him.

PRESENTLY he turned into a squalid quarter. The men hanging about under the flickering gas-lamps were the riff-raff of Europe, Africa and Asia. Near by the river, black and oily, lapped against the walls of tenements and warehouses.

I began to wish that I had taken Tom's advice and gone home, but it was too late now.

I had to follow him to find my way out of the maze of slums.

He stopped before a tumbledown house where a group of people were standing looking at something in the gutter. They made way for him.

Out came his torch. In its beam I saw a ragged figure lying prone, and a trickle of blood on the pavement. I screamed. I couldn't help it.

Tom looked round and saw me in the shadows. He strode over and took me by the arm.

"You little fool," he said, "what are you doing here? Well, it's no good arguing; walk straight on and keep in the middle of the road.

"When you reach the market-place, turn right. On the corner is an Arab café. Walk in and through to the back room and wait for me. I can't leave here till the doctor and the ambulance arrive."

I knew from the sharp tone of his voice that I was in danger, and I obeyed.

I found the café easily. There were a dozen men inside, mostly Arabs and Levantines. They were sitting at small dirty tables.

The stench of the place made me feel sick, but I walked into the back room with my head high. I wasn't going to show my fear.

A dark-haired sallow woman appeared.

"What do you wish for?" she asked, and if her attitude was not hostile it was suspicious.

"I am waiting for a friend," I said.

"Oh, yes! A gentleman?" She looked me up and down.

"Yes."

Then the drab shrugged her shoulders and shuffled off.

Quarter of an hour passed. Once or twice the woman opened the door and looked in, and I caught a glimpse of the Arabs turning round at their tables and staring at me.

At last Tom came. He was furious.

"Do you realise," he said, "that you have probably caused me to lose a murderer? I might have nabbed him if you hadn't followed me.

"I know you're only eighteen, but I did think you had more sense. Why, in this quarter you could be kidnapped and shipped off to Buenos Aires before we knew you were missing.

"YOU'VE got to go home at once. Come on; I'll see you're all right."

He took my arm and hustled me out of the café. We hadn't gone fifty yards when there was a loud report and a flash of flame.

Tom grunted, staggered against me, and fell to the pavement.

As I wheeled, I saw a shabby little man with a revolver in his hand.

I tried to scream, but my throat was so tight with fear that I couldn't make a sound. Instead, I fled sobbing.

There were two more reports. A bullet sent splinters of brick showering in my face, and I ran headlong into the arms of a man in blue.

"Tom Redfern, Tom Redfern.... He's been shot. . . . He's been shot. . . ."

A police whistle shrilled. Another and another. The street was filled with running men.

TWO hours later I was sitting beside Tom in the hospital. Luckily, his wound had not been serious.

"Oh, Tom," I said, "I shall never forgive myself. My folly nearly cost your life."

"No, dear," he murmured, "you're wrong. You've saved me.

"I didn't know it, but that little gunman was out to get me too. It was an old grudge, you see. I sent him to prison five years ago.

"If you hadn't taken to your heels and run into that policeman he would have been able to make sure of me. He used up all his bullets in trying to hit you.

"But let's stop talking about me; let's talk about us."

We did. Tom's my husband now.

Reader's Story by Mrs. C. D. Whittaker,
9, Reeves Avenue, N.W.9

Earn £5 5s. by letting us publish your real-life adventure, preferably one that happened in Britain. Length should not exceed 1,200 words, and a stamped addressed envelope must be sent.

Out came his torch. In its beam I saw a ragged figure lying prone. . . . I screamed. I couldn't help it.

Race with "Silver Ring"

Eye in the Sky

WHEN Lincoln comes round again the demand for the camera as an aid to judging close finishes is sure to be revived.

There is a lot to be said in favour of the installation of photographic apparatus on the finishing line. When half a dozen horses flash by the winning post virtually in line, backers of five of them will be convinced that the judge has made a mistake.

But there can be no argument if there is a photographic record to support the official verdict.

The method is employed with success on most American and many Continental racecourses. If the finish is particularly close, then the judge waits to see the proof of the negative before authorising the numbers to be hoisted. It is a matter of rather less than a couple of minutes before the "evidence" is ready, and no doubt it is better to have this brief period of suspense rather than half an hour of unseemly demonstration such as sometimes occurs when a judge's verdict is questioned.

When first introduced, the camera, or "Eye in the Sky," as it is termed, was not altogether satisfactory. It tended to favour the horses on the far side of the course, just as the human judge is apt to do. But the more modern apparatus is infallible.

"SILVER RING'S" CODE.

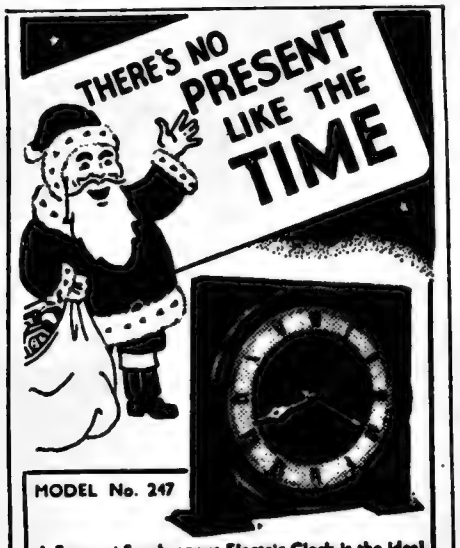
The Code for this week is as follows. It covers the racing from Thursday, December 15, to Wednesday, December 21:—

X Z Q C 93 B 94 M S R P O 98 T F U
97 L H J I 95 E D K V W A N 96 G Y

In place of the letters or figures advertised in the *Sporting Life* and *Daily Herald* read those above or below, as the case may be. Example:

S9398FKQ93W would read KINGSHIP.

Where a double letter occurs in the name of a horse the figure 2 is substituted. OJQ93Z2 would read ACHILL.



MODEL No. 247

A Ferranti Synchronous Electric Clock is the ideal gift. Needing no winding or regulating, it gives a lifetime of faithful service, and running costs are less than 1/- per year at 1d. per unit.

Model No. 247, Oak 53/-
Model No. 248, Walnut 54/-

5-in. dial with Silvered Zone, chromium hair-line bezel, hands and feet.

For A.C. Mains 200/250 volts, 50 cycles.

Obtainable from all high-class Jewellers, Radio and Electrical Dealers. Write for our Catalogue C.J./13 to

FERRANTI LTD., HOLLINWOOD, LANCS.
London: Bush House, Aldwych, W.C.2.

FERRANTI CLOCKS

KIDNEY AILMENTS

Mrs. Allanson, Leeds, writes:—"I suffered terribly from Kidney Trouble caused through my confinement, and had five fits. I lost over 3 stones and could not walk. My gums and tongue were pure white, and I suffered dreadful nights. I was told my kidneys were permanently damaged and nothing more could be done for me. I started taking Vitadatio and it has worked wonders. I cannot thank you enough for the wonderful benefit I have derived from it. My kidneys have now been tested again and found to be perfect."

If you suffer from Kidney, Liver or Stomach Trouble, Vitadatio can help you! Sold by Boots, Timothy Whites & Taylors, Chemists, Stores, 3/- and 5/- per bottle or direct per post (6d. extra in U.K.).

From VITADATIO, ARMLEY, LEEDS. Write for FREE BOOK EA 121

Shiny nose gone forever!

Snowfire Powder-Cream is the secret of a skin that stays 'matt' all the time no matter how active you are out of doors or how hot you get indoors. And how economical to buy powder and cream combined! There are five flattering shades—Naturelle, Peach, Rachelle, Deep Rachelle and Ivory.

Never have a shiny nose—use

Snowfire POWDER-CREAM

XMAS FUR BARGAIN

10/- down and 9 monthly payments

TO REACH YOUR PEAK OF LOVELINESS WEAR A SUGDEN FUR COAT

FINE QUALITY MUSQUASH CONEY SWAGGER COAT

CASH PRICE £5

or 18 monthly payments of 10/-

NOTHING IS ADDED FOR CREDIT

Send Your Deposit To-day

YOURS TO WEAR RIGHT AWAY FURS SENT ON APPROVAL ANYWHERE

Sugden Furs

196, Regent St. W.1.

POST THIS TO-DAY FOR NEW CATALOGUE UNSEALED ENVELOPE ½d. STAMP

Visit our SHOWROOMS (not a shop) 1st FLOOR over Kodak Next Door to Galeries Lafayette FUR SPECIALISTS FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS

'Phone: REG. 2236. Open until 7 p.m.

To G. A. Sugden, Ltd., 188, Regent St., London, W.1

Name .....

Address..... J.B.2

RHEUMATISM

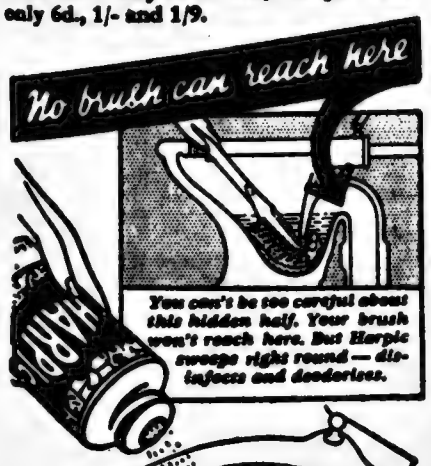
LASTING RELIEF!

"... I had Neuritis in my arm, could not move it for four months, they (Uraco Brand Tablets) have completely cured me, I have never felt any pain since."—M.B., Roydon. Free sample from Newbery and Phillips, Ltd., 33m, Banner Street, London, E.C.1. From your chemist, 1/3 and 3/-

IS ONLY HALF YOUR LAVATORY CLEAN?

HARPIC not only keeps the bowl spotlessly white. It sweeps right round that hidden bend in the pipe, cleans thoroughly where no brush can ever reach. It disinfects and deodorises at the same time. You just sprinkle Harpic, leave as long as possible, then flush.

In new easy-flow tins, Harpic costs only 6d., 1/- and 1/9.


No brush can reach here
You can't be too careful about this hidden half. Your brush won't reach here. But Harpic sweeps right round — disinfects and deodorises.
HARPIC

CLEANS · DISINFECTS · DEODORISES

HARPIC for the lavatory

HARPIC MFG. CO. LTD., HULL AND LONDON

LAST CHANCE BEFORE CHRISTMAS!

JOHN BULL'S GREAT XMAS GIFT TO YOU!

Written 2 YEAR GUARANTEE WITH EACH SET
Safety clip and extra leads!
Handsome inlaid gold bands!
Exquisitely chased!
Lever self-filling device!
A large 14-carat solid gold nib!
Written 5 YEAR GUARANTEE WITH EACH SET
ALL BRITISH MADE!

HAD YOURS YET?

YOU cannot afford to delay if you are to receive your Gift Set in time for Xmas. Every effort will be made to ensure that applications received on or before December 23rd will be dealt with before Xmas, but we would ask you to avoid the last minute rush. Your Gift Vouchers are here—one worth 2/9, the other 7/6. You can cash one or both.

John Bull Xmas Gift Voucher — VALUE 2/9

This Gift Voucher will be accepted as 2/9 in part payment of the "John Bull" 5/6 Writing Set. Only one Voucher will be accepted in part payment of each Set. Valid until 31st December, 1938.

No. A 57025

ONE or BOTH — take your choice

A FREE 2/9 GIFT VOUCHER

The Gift Voucher above will be accepted as 2/9 cash in part payment of "John Bull's" 5/6 Writing Set. The raven-black Pen, handsomely chased, with its graceful streamline effect, delights the eye. It has the latest lever self-filling device. The 14-carat solid gold nib is tipped with iridium. The "Ever-pointed" Pencil, fitted with a propel-repel-expel movement, matches the Pen, and is complete with "Safety" pocket-clip and extra leads. The Presentation Case gives the finishing touch.

John Bull Xmas Gift Voucher — VALUE 7/6

This Gift Voucher will be accepted as 7/6 in part payment of the "John Bull" 12/6 Writing Set De Luxe. Only one Voucher will be accepted in part payment of each Set. Valid until 31st December, 1938.

No. B 57025

A FREE 7/6 GIFT VOUCHER

The Gift Voucher above will be accepted as 7/6 cash in part payment of "John Bull's" 12/6 Writing Set De Luxe. The Pen has three inlaid bands of 18-carat ROLLED GOLD; a large nib of 14-carat SOLID GOLD with a tip of costly iridium; the latest lever self-filling device and a "Safety" pocket-clip. The "Ever-pointed" Pencil has two inlaid bands of 18-carat ROLLED GOLD, foolproof propel-repel-expel movement, "Safety" pocket-clip, eraser and extra leads. The Pen and Pencil are exquisitely chased. The Presentation Case is beautifully coloured with a Pearl and Butterfly effect.

"John Bull's" Christmas Gift Coupon

To "John Bull" Pen Dept., 134-135, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

(1) I enclose Gift Voucher value 2/9, which please accept in part payment of the "John Bull" 5/6 Writing Set. I enclose P.O. for 2/9 plus 6d. for postage and insurance, making 3/- in all.

(2) I enclose Gift Voucher value 7/6, which please accept in part payment of the "John Bull" 12/6 Writing Set DE LUXE. I enclose P.O. for 3/- plus 6d. for postage and insurance, making 3/6 in all.

(1) Fine. Medium. Broad. Oblique. — Cross out grades of nib NOT required. — (2) Fine. Medium. Broad. Oblique.

If you desire BOTH SETS send the two Vouchers and a Postal Order for 5/- only.

NAME.....

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS.....

.....

Write clearly in Block Letters.

J.B., 17/12/38.

.....

Cross Cheque or Postal Order /& Co./ and make payable to "John Bull."

INDIGESTION

Flatulence, Heartburn, and all kindred stomach ills **can be stopped!**

Meggeson's Bismuth Dyspepsia Tablets have brought blessed relief to hundreds of thousands of grateful users, for more than 40 years.

● **Meggeson's marvellous prescription** is embodied in handy, pleasant tablets which you can suck like sweets, anywhere, at any time—no water needed, no mixing, no stirring. The valuable ingredients soothe the agony of inflamed stomach walls, rapidly restore the tender membranes to healthy tissue, and by properly controlling the balance between acidity and alkalinity they produce true **stomach-comfort.**

● Chalk, for very good reasons, does **not** figure in the prescription. Meggeson's contain **no** chalk.

Test this wonderful remedy for yourself FREE OF CHARGE. (See below.)

For your protection, sold only by Qualified Chemists.

1/3 and 3/3 **MEGGESON** Bismuth **DYSPEPSIA TABLETS**

MEGGESON is a Trade-Mark identifying the products of Meggeson & Co., Ltd., London.

free! To MEGGESON & CO., LTD. (Dept. J.B.2), Llewellyn Street, London, S.E.16

Please send me a Free Sample of your Meggeson Bismuth Dyspepsia Tablets. I enclose 1½d. in stamps to cover postage.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Delighted thousands have proved that

Phensic IS THE QUICKEST CURE FOR COLDS

CHILLS and INFLUENZA

At the first sign of infection take 2 Tablets of Phensic and you will have the benefit of the *four finest specifics known to medical science* for the treatment of *feverish conditions, nerve pains, colds, chills, influenza and rheumatism.* Get Phensic NOW. Find swift recovery! 3d, 6d, 1/3, 3/- & 5/-

Phensic

Pronounced 'FEN-ZIK' *Brand*

Quickest and Safest for COLDS and INFLUENZA

WHY ILLNESS STRIKES DOWN SOME CHILDREN -MISSES OTHERS

Today nearly every child gets a cod liver oil tonic in winter. Then why does it protect some children and not others?

ONE THING modern mothers have learnt is that in winter children need a cod liver oil tonic to protect them against illness. But some mothers are baffled to find their children do not get as much benefit from this care as others.

The trouble is that thousands of children cannot take ordinary cod liver oil — their digestions are not strong enough. Such children should only be given cod liver oil *in its most quickly digestible form*—Scotts Brand Emulsion.

"*When cod liver oil is given in the white, creamy form of Scotts Brand Emulsion,*" writes an eminent Medical Research Body, "*children can wholly digest the oil, and get all the body-building goodness they need.*"

SOUND REASONS WHY YOUR CHILD'S COD LIVER OIL TONIC MUST BE SCOTTS BRAND EMULSION

1. **Ordinary cod liver oil is difficult for some children to take.**
2. **Scotts Brand Emulsion is the most quickly digestible form of cod liver oil. Immediately after taking, *every drop* goes to strengthen the child's whole body, particularly the chest and lungs.**
3. **Scotts Brand Emulsion actually makes the digestive juices work more strongly, so that the body gets more nourishment out of food.**
4. **Scotts Brand Emulsion also contains hypophosphites of lime and soda, to help still further in building up your child's bones and teeth.**

Give your child a spoonful of Scotts Brand Emulsion *three times every day*. Trial size 1/3, larger sizes 3/- and 5/-.

"I dreaded the coming of winter for my girl:"

"*Every winter,*" writes a Brixton mother, "*my little girl used to catch running colds. The tonic I gave her didn't seem to help. But then I read that Scotts Brand Emulsion was more digestible, so I tried that. You should see her now! Not a cold all last winter. It was a treat to see the little mite putting on weight and getting rosy cheeks.*"

INDIGESTION AND FLATULENCE AFTER MEALS

You get burning pain and distressing wind after meals because your stomach is always too acid. Food simply can't digest and your stomach is tortured in the attempt. Why endure this mealtime misery when 'Milk of Magnesia' Tablets will stop it this very day? They relieve acidity and sweeten a sour stomach at once. The stomach starts digesting your food right away and finishes its work with perfect ease. You feel nothing—no heartburn, no flatulence, not a twinge of your old stomach pain. If you suffer from acute attacks of gastric pain 'Milk of Magnesia' brand Tablets will stop them in five minutes. Try them. Neat flat tins for the pocket 6d. and 1/-. Also family sizes, 2/- and 3/6.

'Milk of Magnesia' is the trade mark of Phillips' preparation of Magnesia.

For BARGAINS See JOHN BULL'S "SHOP WINDOW"

Pages 2, 3, and 35.

Pools Parliament

WAY TO GOOD FORECASTING

By "Poolex"

Pools fans, this is your page —say what you like, ask what you want to know about your winter hobby. If you have a problem to be solved or an opinion to express concerning football pools, write to "Poolex." Pools Parliament, 93, Long Arce, London, W.C.2.

"BETTER be consistent than brilliant" is the theme of a letter sent to me by a reader who signs himself F.S.T., Birmingham.

He has learned this lesson, he says, from season after season of coupon-marking.

And he continues: "The punter who can get six or seven forecasts right out of twelve consistently is much more likely to win dividends than the erratic forecaster who gets, say, nine right one week, three the next, and so on.

"The first man knows what to expect from his efforts and can allow for the number of mistakes he usually makes. If the erratic fellow tries to do this, he will *over-correct* himself in some weeks, and under-correct in others. That is why consistent forecasting is so important.

"Until recently my difficulty has been to find a method that produces a steady average of correct results. In fact, I don't think that the amateur forecaster can hope to do so, but fortunately I noticed your Graded Guide, which, in my opinion, gives just the steady average required to provide a sound basis for a system.

"I am interested in the 8-results pool (four leagues), and, taking the first 10 matches on the Graded Guide, which are also included on my coupon, has given me 8, 6, 8 and 8 correct in successive weeks.

"I have just missed a dividend on two occasions, but I am sure you could improve on this by recommending a staking method costing not more than 2s. 6d. Will you help?"

The steady average of correct results in the Graded Guide is, I think, due to two factors.

To start with, it is based on recent form only, which means that erratic teams are not likely to be strongly favoured, and, secondly, I never "play my hunches."

Frequently, the method I use for the Graded Guide points to a forecast which is rather against my private opinion, but I never let that opinion influence the grading.

As for a staking method, I cannot give one to fit F. S. T.'s stake that will *guarantee* a winning line with eight right out of ten, but here are two suggestions which have good winning chances.

Table A includes two bankers, and Table B is without bankers.

Table A.				Table B.				
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	–
1	1	1	1	1	1	–	1	1
1	1	1	–	–	1	1	1	1
1	1	–	1	1	–	1	1	1
1	–	1	1	1	1	1	–	1
–	1	1	1	–	1	1	1	1
–	1	1	1	1	1	–	1	1
1	–	1	1	1	1	1	1	–
1	1	–	1	1	1	1	–	1
1	1	1	–	1	–	1	1	1

By using one of these tables and taking matches from the top of the Graded Guide, I rate Table A as a 10 to 1 chance, and Table B as an 8 to 1 chance.

Goal Averages

My contention is that the advantage of playing at home is as good as a goal start over the away team, and on this I base my system.

Taking the home team's goal average, subtract one goal from the "goals for" for every home match played.

If there is still a margin of goals in favour of the home team, then they are worth following for home wins. Good goal averages point to an attacking side and good defence.—J. H. W., Middlesbrough.

It seems a sound theory, but it does not work out in practice. The teams indicated by this method of selection give no more than the average of about 55 per cent. home wins, which is not good enough to win dividends.

Best for Draws

My favourite pool is the three draws, and I am thinking of concentrating on only one division for my selections, using six or seven matches. Which is the best division for drawn games?—"Three Draws," Sunderland.

Just at present the Southern Section of Division III is producing a big percentage of draws. I confess that I cannot suggest a reason for this, and it may be just coincidence. Taken over several years the proportion of drawn games in the various Divisions are as follows:—

Div. I. 23 per. cent.
Div. II. 22 per cent.
Div. III (N.). 21 per cent.
Div. III (S.). 23 per cent.
Div. I (Scottish). 19 per cent.

On these figures, it would be as well to avoid the Scottish League, but there is very little to choose between the other Divisions.

Last Year's Wins

Have you noticed the large numbers of results which turn out to be the same as the corresponding match last year. It seems that past history is a more reliable guide to results than either form or forecasting. I would like you to recommend a system for a 12-results pool, based on the previous year's results.—B. L. L., London, N.W.6.

I have had this idea submitted to me by many readers. In fact, although there are quite a lot of matches which repeat last year's results, the *proportion* compared with the number of matches played is not large.

The average is about 5 in 12, but there is a big variation from week to week. Read what F. S. T. above says about the value of consistent forecasting, and you will understand why I do not recommend this idea.

Making it Harder

I do not believe in including the same match in more than one column (except in penny pools, of course). I like to have four sixpenny columns on the 10-results pool, and pick ten different matches for each line. A wrong forecast can only spoil one line if you do this.—A. E. F. Canvey.

Have you realised what could happen? You could have as many as 36 correct forecasts out of 40 and yet not have a winning line.

Calculations Corner

In response to many enquiries, the following table is given showing the number of lines required to cover all the possible groups of 4 matches chosen from 5 to 12 matches.

No. of matches.	No. of lines.	No. of matches.	No. of lines.
5	5	9	126
6	15	10	210
7	35	11	330
8	70	12	495

Small investors in the pools should study the "Sporting Life Weekly" every Saturday for the special penny entries designed by "Poolex." This is one of many useful features included in the "Weekly's" comprehensive pools service

He's Cashed 279 Cheques from "John Bull"

Here you see Mr. J. W. Honeycombe, 355, Portland Road, Hove, who secured a JOHN BULL Crossword Life Pension of 20s. Weekly in July, 1933. Already his Saturday Pension cheques total 279—and they will continue for the rest of his life. Turn to this week's Crossword on page 36, for a coupon may well win you £2 Weekly for Life!

Graded Guide and Pools Chart

by Poolex (copyright)

BELOW are the games to be played on Saturday, December 17.

Likely home winners on form, are at the top of the list, next come the more evenly matched teams, and at the end are likely away winners.

As an additional guide, column A shows whether the home team (1) or the away team (2) has the advantage on recent form. Column B gives the next-best forecast as an alternative, whilst column C gives a warning asterisk (*) where results in past years suggest form may be upset.

In pools where a choice is given, avoid games marked *; cover fully, if possible (1—x—2), in pools where each match has to be forecast.

December 17, 1938	A	B	C
1 Manchester City v. Norwich	1	x	
2 Rangers v. Aberdeen	1	2	*
3 Celtic v. St. Mirren	1	2	
4 Kilmarnock v. Clyde	1	x	
5 Gateshead v. New Brighton	1	x	
6 Swindon v. Exeter	1	x	
7 Northampton v. Bristol Rovers	1	2	*
8 Wolverhampton v. Bolton	1	2	*
9 Chesterfield v. Notts Forest	1	x	
10 Derby v. Middlesbrough	1	2	
11 Everton v. Charlton	1	2	
12 Aldershot v. Bournemouth	1	x	*
13 West Ham v. Southampton	1	2	
14 Blackburn v. Plymouth	1	2	
15 Doncaster v. Stockport	1	2	*
16 Hearts v. Hamilton	1	2	
17 Huddersfield v. Preston	1	x	*
18 Darlington v. Chester	1	2	*
19 Portsmouth v. Chelsea	1	x	
20 Sheffield W. v. Burnley	1	x	
21 Bristol C. v. Walsall	1	2	
22 Hartlepools v. Barrow	1	x	
23 Grimsby v. Leicester	1	x	
24 Millwall v. Luton	1	2	*
25 Wrexham v. Halifax	1	x	
26 Blackpool v. Birmingham	1	2	
27 Clapton O. v. Ipswich	1	x	
28 Rotherham v. Accrington	1	2	
29 Aston V. v. Leeds	1	2	
30 Crewe v. Hull	1	2	
31 Watford v. Q.P.R.	1	2	
32 Brentford v. Manchester U.	1	x	
33 Raith R. v. Albion R.	1	x	
34 Motherwell v. Hibernian	1	2	
35 Third Lanark v. Ayr	1	2	
36 Carlisle v. Bradford C.	1	x	
37 Crystal P. v. Mansfield	2	x	
38 Port Vale v. Southend	2	1	
39 Notts C. v. Brighton	2	x	*
40 Arsenal v. Stoke	2	x	*
41 Newport v. Reading	2	1	*
42 Fulham v. Sheffield U.	2	x	*
43 Falkirk v. Partick	2	1	
44 Bury v. Tottenham	2	x	
45 Swansea v. Newcastle	2	x	
46 Southport v. Lincoln	2	x	
47 Sunderland v. Liverpool	2	x	*
48 Queen of South v. Queen's Park	2	x	
49 Rochdale v. Barnsley	2	1	
50 Torquay v. Cardiff	2	x	*
51 York v. Oldham	2	x	*
52 Bradford v. W.B.A.	2	x	*
53 Arbroath v. St. Johnstone	2	x	*
54 Tranmere v. Coventry	2	x	

As easy as lighting one cigarette from another.

Hamelex LEKTROLITE

66 POST FREE

Elegantly cased with fluid refill.

Lights even in a gale! Nothing to go wrong, odourless, windproof. Lights whether outdoors or in! Send P.O. and Lektrolite comes carefully packed and post paid by return. Satisfaction or money back.

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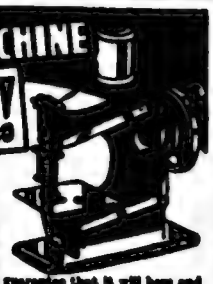
Sole Scottish Distributors
Dept. J.B.2, 88, Dunlop St., Glasgow

THIS COMPLETE SEWING MACHINE FREE!



Would you miss the greatest gift offer placed before the public? Don't be sceptical—this marvellous Mills Hand Sewing Machine, complete with needle, cotton, table-clamp, screwdriver, ready for use, is YOURS absolutely FREE. We guarantee that it will hum and stitch a complete garment quickly and neatly. Simply purchase 2 packets of our famous "Multi-Life" 2-hole type, double-edged, Sheffield Steel razor blades at 1/- per packet of 12, and 6d. for post and packing (2/6 in all, no more to pay). This gift offer is made solely to popularise our wonderful blades.

MAIL PRODUCTIONS, LTD. (Dept. J.B.S.M.2), 89/91, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

LASTING WAVES ALL OVER THE HEAD WITH THIS NEW WAVER & SETTER

Post 3d 1/6

A "once in a lifetime" opportunity to cut "Perm" and "setting" bills and obtain glorious, natural wavy hair. This famous Waver scientifically and automatically sets the hair into any desired depth of lasting waves. It CANNOT FAIL, even on absolutely straight hair. If you follow the simple instructions. No hot irons, electricity, danger or fuss—get a full wave at home in half an hour! Comfortable in use, washable, will last for years to save you pounds in hairdressing costs. Greatly reduced. A limited number offered at only 1/6, post 3d.

MAIL PRODUCTIONS, LTD. (Dept. J.B.S.W.22), 89/91, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

years for 6d.

Ladies' or Gent's Model

Guaranteed 10 years

This famous STREAMLINE Shock-proof unbreakable Wrist Watch is fully guaranteed to keep perfect time under severe conditions and to withstand shock. Non-magnetic, damp-proof, dustproof, unbreakable glass, jewelled movement. Fitted in a highly polished chromium-plated case, complete with leather strap or chromium-plated adjustable bracelet free. Silver chrome or lum. dial. Send 6d. deposit and 6d. post and packing now; if satisfactory 1/6 after 7 days and 1/6 every 14 days until 21/- is paid in all.

Cash Price 19/6.
Ladies' Model 2/6 *extra.*
Home Bargains List FREE.

EDWARD BROS., J.B. 17.12.
The Reliable Mail Order House
28, New Oxford St., London, W.C.1.

10/6 Gift Voucher for Every Reader

Is there a "catch" in it? No! Simply buy three 2/- packets of "Multi-Life" 2-hole type Sheffield Steel Razor Blades (36 in all at 2/-, post 6d., and receive by return the 45 blades, 10/6 Gift Voucher and Wallet and Chain as illus. ABSOLUTELY NOTHING MORE TO PAY! A truly amazing offer which you cannot afford to miss. Send P.O. for 2/6 at once to:

MAIL PRODUCTIONS, LTD. (Dept. B.W.2.39), 89/91, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

Portable BUILDING CONSTRUCTION REVOLUTIONISED!

WONDERFUL NEW EVERLASTING WOOD

Write at once for Free Catalogue of these amazing buildings: Sheds, Garages, Greenhouses, etc., in beautiful Red Cedar, the everlasting wood which will not decay, warp or shrink. Needs no painting or preservative! Prices from £7/6. EASY TERMS. Free Delivery—all clear. Send NOW to The Cedar Specialists.

2/- DOWN

R. H. HALL & CO. (Kent), Ltd. (627) Paddock Wood, KENT

JAGROSE HOME BILLIARDS

NO DEPOSIT 1/-

BILLIARDS & SHOOKER COMBINED

4 ft. 2 in. superior oak finish billiard table, complete with 2 cues, balls, marker, spirit level, also selected composition 17-ball snooker set with polished triangle in neat box. Fully guaranteed. Fast playing surface. Other tables from 16/-. Slate bed from 40/6. Send for Free Games List No. 2.

35/- Carr. paid Greater London

JAMES GROSE EUSTON RD LONDON

Hamilton Stock

400 ONLY JAZZ TO CLEAR DRUM SETS

Having purchased an entire factory stock of musical instruments, we are able to make this truly amazing offer of complete drum sets, comprising large bass drum, brass bound, with real skin and five adjusters, strong, automatic flyback foot-beater, real skin side-drum, hard-wood tap-box, brass cymbal, triangle and cowbell, also pair well-balanced drum-sticks. The whole outfit comes to you completely boxed at the incredible clearance price of 59/- only, postage 1/-. No party or amateur band is complete without this wonderful outfit, so send P.O. at once to

MAIL PRODUCTIONS, LTD. (Dept. J.B.J.S.6), 89/91, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

17 NURSERY RHYMES On One Record (COMPLETE SET) 10d. ONLY

By Uncle Tom and Uncle Harry, vocalists of Children's Hour Fame. We have been chosen to clear complete bankrupt Stock of these records, and have decided to dispose of them at the ridiculously low price of 10d., post 6d. to defray advertising costs, just to circularise our Bumper Catalogue. Send P.O. for 1/- (stamps not accepted), when the set of records will be sent immediately. Little Jack Horner, Ding Dong Bell, Miss Muffet, etc. Orchestra accompaniments. Send Now. This offer may never be repeated.

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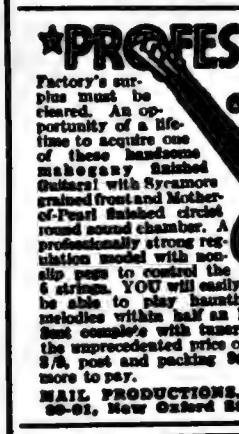

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Factory's surplus must be cleared. An opportunity of a lifetime to acquire one of these handsome mahogany finished Guitars! with Sycamore grained front and Mother-of-Pearl finished circle round sound chamber. A professionally strong resonation model with non-slip pegs to control the 6 strings. YOU will easily be able to play haunting melodies within half an hour. Sent complete with tuner, for the unprecedented price of only 3/9, post and packing 9d. No more to pay.

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COMPLETE SHAVING KIT & 10/6 GIFT VOUCHER FREE

The Greatest Gift Offer! So great is our confidence that our "Double-Life" 100% Sheffield 2-hole type Razor Blades are as good as any 4d. blade that we are giving FREE with every packet of 12 blades a heavily plated safety RAZOR, a circular MIRROR to stand or hang on wall, fine quality bristle SHAVING BRUSH, full size stick of SHAVING SOAP and 10/6 Gift Voucher. Send P.O. 1/9 to receive by return 12 Blades, FREE Shaving Kit and 10/6 Gift Voucher post free.

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REAL GOLD PLATED HUNTER FREE

Warranted for 10 years

5/- Pocket-to-Pocket Dress Chain, alternate Links, gold & silver-plated. Magnificently engraved watch in flat Dress Model 13.39 style. Huge purchase of Manufacturer's Liquidation Stock enables us to offer at less than Government Duty Price. Timed to a minute a month. Warranted 10 years. Only 5/9 post 6d. Also limited number of Ladies' 18ct. Plated dainty Wristlets 9/6. Post 6d. Value 37/6.

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PIANO PLAYING EASY!

WITH THIS SPECIAL TUTOR

9D. POST FREE

Learn to Play With this Better Method. We do not offer you Aladdin's Lamp, but 24 hours after obtaining you can be playing the piano with the aid of our Lightning Tutor. Be the bright star of the party and the envy of your friends. Folds flat for the pocket. The astounding fact is you need no previous experience; no chance. Cash back if our statements are not true. 9d. post free (stamps not accepted).

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WRIST WATCH WARRANTED 10 YEARS REAL GOLD PLATED

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Amazing VALUE FOR 4/11

ANOTHER COLOSSAL PURCHASE of closing factory's entire stock enables us to offer this genuine lady's real gold plated expanding bracelet lever watch—made for Colonial market to be sold at much higher price—direct from us at a price that we, as expert valuers, know to be a world-wide achievement, ranking us as the British House for Amazing Bargains. This watch lies flat and neat on the wrist, immaculate dial with shock-proof lever movement and recoil spring to prevent overwinding. Timed to a minute. Warranted 10 years. Price only 4/11, post and packing 6d. Gent's square model same price. Send Now.

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Always a good DRAW especially at XMAS

AUSTRALIAN WINE

FROM BRITAIN'S OWN VINEYARD

£2 WEEKLY FOR LIFE or £600 Cash

£100 BETWEEN 1st RUNNER-UP AND SURPRISE AWARDS FOR 2nd RUNNERS-UP

BIG 10-in-1 New Year HAMPERS ONE WITH EACH PRIZE OF £2 AND OVER

FINE LIFE INCOME

and NEW YEAR FEASTS FOR JOHN BULL'S X WORD

£1 New Year BONUS PARCELS

One to every cash winner in this Contest who submitted not less than 8 squares (or equivalent) in one envelope

READ THESE RULES.

1.—Make entry in ordinary ink, not copying-ink or copying-ink pencil. Entry-fee is at the rate of sixpence for each two squares submitted. Make Postal Order payable to Odhams Press Ltd., and cross it /& Co./; write name and address and date of posting on back of P.O. and fill in the number upon Entry Form. Entry Form to be posted as directed (not delivered by hand) to reach us not later than Thursday, December 22, 1938.

2.—Each entrant is limited to 8 sixpenny entries, each on an Entry Form provided in this or any other announcement of this Contest.

No responsibility is accepted for any entry lost, delayed, not delivered, or mislaid, and no correspondence will be entered into.

3.—Should any single letter square be left blank, contain a letter which is not clear, or altered, or not given in ink, the corresponding properly indicated letter on Entry-square alongside will be regarded as entrant's intended letter for both Entry-squares. If entrant's answer cannot be so decided, or such flaws occur in more than one letter square, Entry-square concerned will be disqualified, as will any mutilated coupon.

4.—Should any competitor not announced as a winner believe that he entered a coupon eligible for a share of the First Prize he must demand a scrutiny in accordance with the directions given with result and enclosing £1 Scrutiny Fee. Any such scrutiny which may amend the result must be accepted as final. No scrutiny can be conducted in connection with the Runners-up Prize or Surprise Awards. Accordingly entries are accepted only on condition that the result of our double adjudication establishing these winners is regarded as final. Merit is established according to the total number of Answers to Clues, both Across and Down, which agree with the winning Puzzle Square.

5.—Should the First Prize be shared, £600 cash will be paid instead of the Pension Award.

6.—Failure to comply with any of the Rules and Conditions involves disqualification.

7.—Employees of Odhams Press Ltd. and members of their families are not eligible to compete.

Terms and Conditions on page 38.

£700 and Xmas Prizes Galore

WON IN CROSSWORD No. 133.

In connection with "John Bull" Crossword No. 133, the Adjudication Committee decided that the entrants who indicated the most meritorious Sets of Answers for one square (see on right) were the following three competitors:—

J. R. JENKINS, 155, Habsonden Street, Spink, Cardiff.
Mrs. J. I. JONES, Gore Head, Clynderwen, Pemb.
L. G. SAXTON, 27, Forecast Road, St. Mary Cray, Kent.

Subject to the Terms and Conditions of the Competition, these competitors share the First Prize of £600, and a cheque for £200 will be sent to each.

Any other entrant who believes that he submitted an entry eligible for a share of this Prize must demand a Scrutiny by not later than First Post, Tuesday, December 20, sending £1 Scrutiny Fee, copy of all entries submitted and Postal Order number. Envelope to be registered, marked "Scrutiny," and addressed to the Competition Editor of "John Bull."

No scrutiny can be undertaken in connection with the £100 Award to Runners-up. This prize has been divided between 44 competitors from whom we received entries inferior in merit by reason of only one less apt and accurate Answer compared with the best entries received. These winners will each receive £2 3s. 6d. A list of these Runners-up can be seen at the "John Bull" offices and all have been notified.

Each cash Prize-winner will also receive one of the famous "John Bull" Christmas Hampers.

A useful Surprise Award for each of 165 entrants from whom we received an entry differing from entries of Runners-up by only one less meritorious Answer will be posted this week.

An extra £1 Xmas Bonus Parcel will be sent to every prize-winner who submitted not less than eight squares (or equivalent) in one envelope.

WINNING WORDS.

ACROSS.—1. DRUMS. 6. JIB. 8. PLAY. 7. SEA. 9. RENT. 12. BOLT. 14. ATE. 15. GAPE or JAPE. 19. TAIL. 20. BOAS or BOGS.
DOWN.—1. DARE. 2. PAPER. 4. BOX. 5. REAR. 7. STROP. 8. CAT. 10. PUS or PUP. 11. WAR. 13. LET. 13. DAD. 16. MILL. 17. SAPS. 18. LOT.

WINNING SQUARE

The Adjudication Committee decided that the most apt and accurate Answers used by competitors were those seen in the Square above.

Spaces are left blank to indicate that at these points GAPE or JAPE, BOAS or BOGS and PUG or PUP were regarded as apt Answers of equal merit.

LIFE PENSION AND CASH FREE

Each entrant of the two 1s. Entry Forms below, accompanied by necessary 2s. entry-fee, is entitled to enclose one "Bullets" Coupon ABSOLUTELY FREE for Pension and Cash Offer appearing on page 39. See also enclosure privilege on page 39.

ACROSS CLUES.

1. Seen useless if left lying out in the open
4. People sometimes find one costly
6. Kind of poem
7. Is often wooden
10. Old boxes are frequently used for
12. One wouldn't need to have very big stocks for a small one
14. One occasionally finds tobacconist has this among tobaccos
16. Daring one is almost certain to get some publicity
20. Pull along broken-down car
21. There's often one on boat
22. Parents sometimes treasure their tiny one

DOWN CLUES.

1. There may be a lot of water in these owing to rain
2. Support of chair
3. Most shipwrecked passengers try to cling to them
5. It's best to cut this when too long
8. Dish left in refrigerator is often this
9. Seat in this is likely to be a very good one
11. If you take the wrong one by accident it's best to go back again
13. May tell you something about nature of country-side
15. Consideration of their age will add to one's appreciation of these
17. Patient is sometimes given this by doctor
18. Paper is rarely used for these
19. Bird that hoots

CUT ROUND BROKEN LINE

FOR FREE X-WORD AID, ENCLOSE THIS COUPON

Affix 1½d. Stamp Here	Affix 1½d. Stamp Here

I have affixed 3d. in stamps for postage on "Crossword Gazette" and "Bullets Bulletin." Please arrange:—

(a) A 6 weeks' Free supply.
(b) 6 weeks' extension of my present supply.
(Cross out line which is not applicable.)

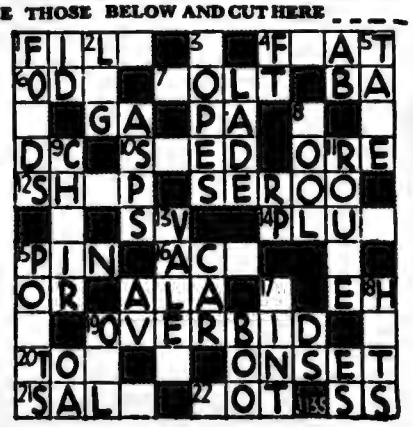
Name .....

Address .....

CUT ROUND THESE BROKEN LINES

"JOHN BULL" CROSSWORD No. 135. Closing Thursday, Dec. 22, 1938.

IF USING 2 SQUARES ONLY, USE THOSE BELOW AND CUT HERE



In entering this competition, I agree to abide by the rules and conditions as final in all matters and I enclose Postal Order

Value.....No.....
With 2 squares send P.O. for 6d.
With 4 squares send P.O. for 1s.

2 SQUARES 6d. 4 SQUARES 1s.

SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

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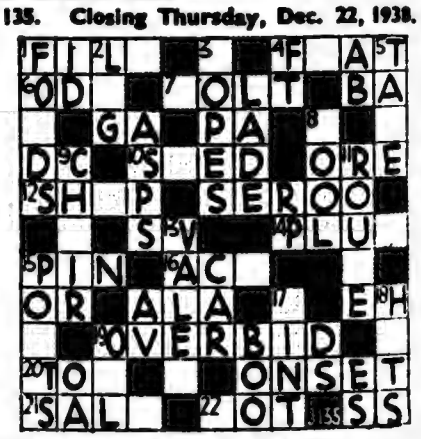
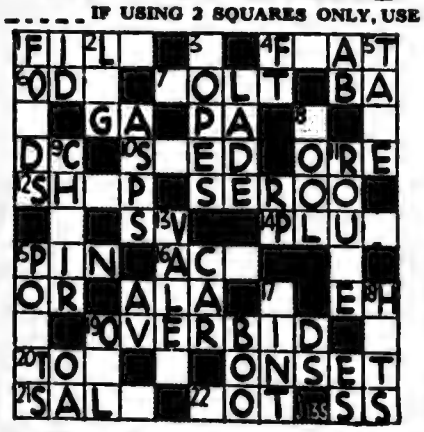
ADDRESS ENTRY: CROSSWORD No. 135, "JOHN BULL," 57, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2 (Comp.)

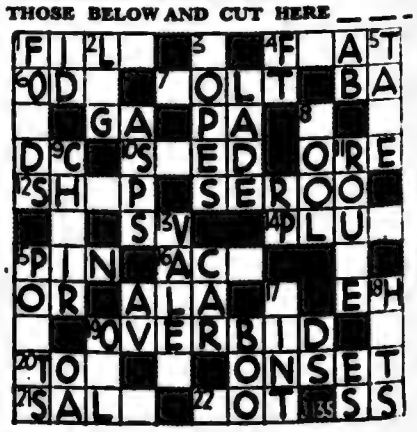
CUT ROUND THESE BROKEN LINES

"JOHN BULL" CROSSWORD No. 135. Closing Thursday, Dec. 22, 1938.



IF USING 2 SQUARES ONLY, USE THOSE BELOW AND CUT HERE





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Value.....No.....
With 6 squares send P.O. for 1s. 6d.
With 8 squares send P.O. for 2s.

6 SQUARES 1s. 6d. 8 SQUARES 2s.

SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

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Competitors requiring a regular supply of "TIME-SAVA" Entry Sheets should apply for "Crossword Gazette" by sending coupon above.

"Bullets" Illustrated :—
The Big Four—Those Ears Next Door!

The Editor Laughs Last

● If you are troubled by any matter—except, of course, of a medical nature—you can obtain free expert advice that will help you.

A stamped, addressed envelope is all that you have to send with your query, which should be written in ink. Write to-day, marking your envelope "Free Advice." The replies given here to facetious correspondents are for your entertainment.

NATURALIST (Kew).—"Do you agree that animals have a sense of humour?" Well, Cheshire cats are reputed to grin, hyænas laugh, and all horses like a little chaff.

S. H. (Holbeach).—"Scouting for boys is an interesting pastime." Many girls are adepts.

G. V. N. (Henfield).—"A former goal-keeper of a well-known football club is now almost penniless." We suppose he never was very expert at saving.

F. S. (Birmingham).—"At this friendly time of the year, my fellow-workers seem to be getting closer to me every hour." Are you their slate-club secretary?

H. N. (Wakefield).—"I have noticed that some vocalists clench their fists when they sing." Just to be on the safe side, no doubt.

T. U. (Warwick).—"What do you think happened when my employer caught me reading a novel in the office?" You lost your place?

* * *

L. R. (Failsworth).—"Whenever I'm in the dumps, I get myself a new hat." Queer place to get decent hats, surely?

* * *

B. J. (Biggleswade).—"I haven't bought a Christmas present for my husband yet because I am simply hopeless when it comes to choosing something suitable for a man." You haven't the gift, in other words?

R. N. (Sunderland).—"Do you turn the sour milk in your house into cheese?" No, into the sink.

T. L. (Lewes).—"My daughters have ordered a crate of mistletoe. What do you suggest I should do about it?" Hang it all, man!

R. K. (York).—"The ideal host puts himself out to make his guests feel at home." Even when he really wishes they were.

* * *

Mac (Aberdeen).—"My caddie flatly refused to look for a lost ball." So you couldn't start your game?

* * *

T. K. N. (Rugby).—"What I always say is, if you don't like the wireless, you needn't listen." You don't know our neighbour's set.

W. H. (Cinderford).—"My tailor has made me a splendid overcoat. I have nothing but praise for him." He'll expect more than that.

D. M. (Ripon).—"In accordance with the terms of my will, my son will lose a fortune if he gambles." He would probably do that anyway.

D. M. (Kettering).—"How can I hang mistletoe in a room so that it is not easily seen?" Lock the door and pull down the blinds.

F. J. (Denton).—"What can be a more thrilling sight than to see the horse you backed win at a long price?" To see the bookmaker still there when you go to collect.

B. F. (Taunton).—"The first time I took my husband's new car out I had a slight accident, but the only damage was a little paint knocked off." So you just made up your face again and carried on?

A. L. J. (Looe).—"What's good to put on a bald head?" A hat.

A. C. (Radstock).—"What do you think of a man who constantly deceives his wife?" We think he's a wonder.

L. K. (Tring).—"What's the good of a sundial in the shade?" About as good as a bottle of beer in a pub that's closed.

J. L. (Merstham).—"My uncle may leave me his fortune, but, on the other hand, he may not." A question of will or won't.

K. G. (Sidmouth).—"I am sure women welcome the return of the crinoline because it has an appeal of its own." And a very wide one, too.

* * *

Tom (Wargrave).—"I am working for the support of literature." Making book-cases?

* * *

A. J. (Bourne).—"Four of us were sharing the same umbrella but not one of us got wet. Can you account for that?" It wasn't raining?

D. N. (Newport).—"Can you suggest anything I can put in my Christmas puddings besides threepenny-bits and small silver thimbles?" Yes, currants and raisins.

S. L. (Guildford).—"Jokes about the weather date back a long way." Right back, so some students think, to the patter Noah heard on the roof of the ark.

T. J. W. (Swansea).—"Fancy having to wait till sixty-five for a pension and then getting only 10s. a week!" A First in *Bullets* or Crosswords this week would bring you twice that income *and at once*. See pages 38 and 39.

O. P. (Coventry).—"I asked the waitress what was wrong with the eggs she had brought me, but she didn't know anything about them." Why should she? She only laid the table.

A. F. H. (Wem).—"My wife was very angry when she found a letter of hers which I should have posted still in my pocket at night." You were lucky. She might have found one that you should have burned.

(Many replies unavoidably held over)

Side-Slips

Examples of unconscious humour from the current Press are welcomed. Actual cuttings must be sent. 2/6 is paid to the sender of each item published. Mark envelope "Side-Slips." When the same "slip" is submitted by more than one person, that which arrives with the earliest postmark receives the award.

THE WESTERN INDEPENDENT:—"Ensuing play strongly FLAVOURED the sailors . . ."

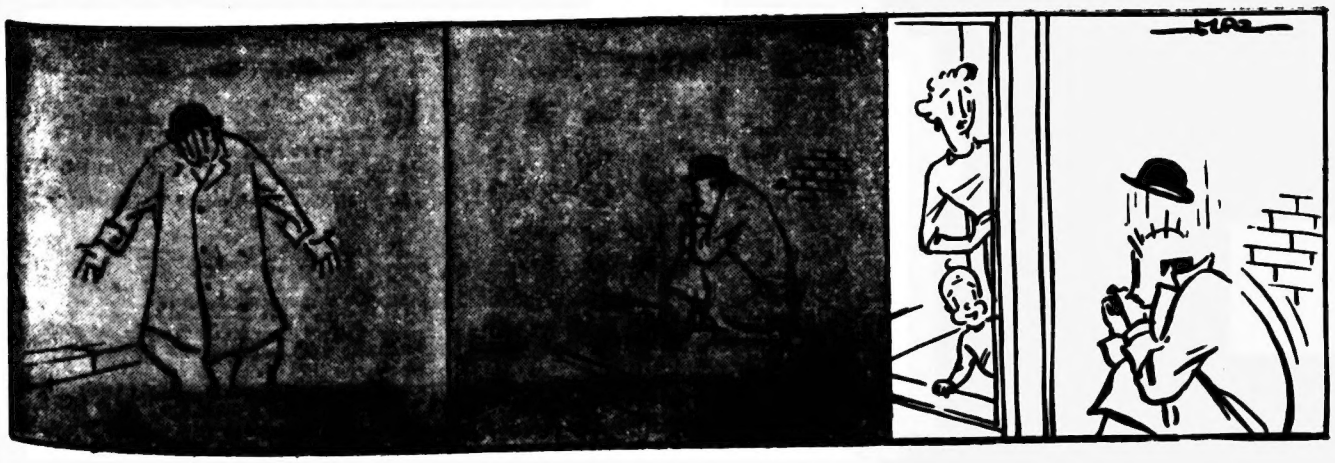
DERBY EVENING TELEGRAPH:—"Of late, his DEATH has improved considerably . . ."

THE WORLD'S FAIR:—"He has travelled the world, performed before every CROWDED head of his time . . ."

NORTH-EASTERN GAZETTE:—"Redcar Council was criticised in an OPEN-AIR meeting held IN THE TOWN HALL."

DAILY MAIL:—". . . fun ultra-fast and furious and fit for the entertainment of FLINGS and queens."

Dad . . . **Fogged** **by Maz**



Quick Relief from Backache

"Every Picture tells a Story."

Sluggish Kidneys cause Sharp or Nagging Pains, Aching Muscles and Joints and Urinary Disorders.

DOANS brand Backache Kidney Pills will make you fit. They wake up lazy kidneys, so that these vital organs filter excess uric acid and other harmful impurities from the blood. This is the surest way to end sharp or nagging backache, urinary or bladder troubles, stiff aching muscles and joints. Take care of yourself. If a chill causes your kidneys to become congested, don't wait to be laid up with backache, rheumatism lumbago or sciatica, but take Doans Pills. Then you will laugh at kidney ailments.

"I take Doans"

Ask your Chemist for

DOANS Backache Kidney Pills

Do you?

When looking at your own loved one, or at those of other families . . . DO YOU EVER THINK of that other child—for whose protection the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children came into existence 54 years ago?

Please send a Christmas gift to Wm. J. Elliott, O.B.E., Director, N.S.P.C.C., Victory House, Leicester Square, London, W.C.2.

N·S·P·C·C

CROSSWORD No. 135.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

ON page 26 is presented the 135th of JOHN BULL'S entertaining Crossword Puzzles; you are invited to exercise your skill and knowledge by completing it with the guidance of the Clues provided.

Aptness and accuracy of Answers in relation to the Clues form the standard of excellence by which entries will be judged, and all decisions will be based on the Answers of Competitors.

This judging will be carried out under the supervision of an Adjudication Committee, consisting of the following:—The Editor of JOHN BULL and Doctor C. E. M. Joad, M.A., D.Lit.

Each entry received will be carefully considered and the First Prize-winner will be the competitor who on one Entry Form has completed the Puzzle and has given what, in the opinion of the Adjudication Committee, is the best set of Answers to the Clues provided. And this set of Answers will constitute the winning Puzzle Square.

If at any points in the Puzzle where a choice of words exists the Adjudication Committee decides that no one word submitted can be preferred on the test of aptness and accuracy, then competitors there using words of equal merit as Answers will be regarded as having tied at those points. The reasons which decided the Committee's Award will be published in "JOHN BULL'S" free weekly Crossword Gazette, obtainable by enclosing with your entry the Reservation Coupon on page 39. The second Prize will be awarded to the competitor whose entry is next in order of merit. In the event of a tie or ties the appropriate cash prize will be equally divided, but not more than one cash prize and one other prize will be allowed to one entrant in any one contest.

Acceptance of the findings of the Adjudication Committee in regard to the most meritorious entries and of the Editor of JOHN BULL in all other matters is a condition on which entries are accepted and is legally binding on all entrants for this Crossword Competition.

If you don't know that...

... meat made from coal is being developed in Germany—American soldiers are to be provided with unshrinkable uniforms—A try-again Torpedo has been invented—Fish can be seasick—A stretched rubber band snaps at a speed of 204 m.p.h.—A car can be made into a good gas-proof shelter—Telegrams can be transmitted by Organ Notes—Ants give Poison Gas—You should read—

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The magazine that explains the marvels of science in a fascinating way.

There are 33 articles and Features, 100 pages, 72 Pictures in the December number.

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on receipt of 6d. in stamps.

Send for this

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of BENSON'S Famous Watches and Jewellery

BENSON'S famous watches are known throughout the world for their sterling quality. For 3/- down you can get either a solid Silver Pocket Watch or Wrist Watch. They make ideal Xmas Gifts! Full details are set out in the Benson's Free Catalogue, containing hundreds of wonderful articles, Watches, Jewellery, etc., which will be sent to those who write, mentioning "John Bull," to J. W. Benson, Ltd. (Dept. J.B.), Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.4. Get a copy to-day!

A special reminder for Xmas!

Be sure to get "POINT" BRAND WINES

For further details—don't overlook the announcement on the Front Cover.

Be Rid of All Digestive Troubles

ACCEPT THIS FREE SAMPLE OFFER

Be rid of your digestive troubles by accepting this generous free offer made to Stomach and Indigestion Sufferers—it appears on p. 33. The makers of Meggeson Brand Bismuth Dyspepsia Tablets have such confidence in the efficacy of this product that they will send Free a generous Trial Sample to any reader who fills in the Coupon on p. 33. Enclose 1½d. stamp for postage, etc. Accept this offer now and enjoy the comfort of perfect digestion. Don't hesitate a moment longer, but fill in the Coupon and post at once. Don't forget to enclose 1½d. stamp.

Marvellous Relief from PILES

"Dear Sirs,—I must thank you very much for GERMOLOIDS. They are really marvellous for giving relief at once and ensure a good night's rest. I feel so grateful that I have found relief. Mrs. S., Nottingham."

Germoloids (Brand) are the wonderful new internal treatment which are saving thousands from the discomfort and agony of Piles. Simple, clean, inexpensive. GERMOLOIDS end smarting and itching, reduce swelling, heal the tissues and protect sensitive nerves.

Germoloids

From Chemists, 1/3 per box of 12

WHEN YOUR HEAD IS DULL AND HEAVY

When your tongue is furred, your bowels costive, and you rise in the morning tired, with no relish for breakfast and dreading your work; when you are bilious, and unable to look at food; when you feel fit-for-nothing, and have no energy, no interest or ambition—*your stomach and liver are out of order.*

It may be the weather or overwork, errors in diet, or some natural weakness; but, whatever the cause, your stomach and liver need immediate help. Indigestion is poisoning your system and sapping your vitality. Mother Seigels Brand Digestive Syrup will surely help you. It will renew your appetite, stimulate your liver to healthy activity, regulate your bowels, make food nourish you, and give you new strength, new energy, new life. Test it to-day. Price 1/3 and 3/-.

IF YOU HAVE—

a Son or Nephew or Younger Brother

Get him to write for This FREE CATALOGUE!

—the wonderful new 72-page MECCANO Catalogue, containing full details and illustrations of the complete range of MECCANO parts, with which he can build bridges, towers, cranes, aeroplanes, ships. There is always something new to make and something new to invent. Quite apart from the endless pleasure it gives, MECCANO provides real educational value among the young of all ages.

A copy of this Special Catalogue can be secured post free in return for the names and addresses of three chums. Be sure to write, mentioning "John Bull," to Meccano Ltd. (Dept. 37), Binns Road, Liverpool, 13.

BAD LEGS YIELD TO NEW TREATMENT

Sufferers from Bad Legs, Eczema, Psoriasis and other skin disorders have found new hope with the remarkable discovery of the value of vitamins in healing skin troubles—Scientists, after carrying out a number of laboratory and clinical tests, discovered that when a certain "Skin Vitamin" was present healing of diseased tissues took place quicker. This curative vitamin activates "HEALO" Brand Antiseptic Ointment and this quality, together with soothing and germicidal properties, makes "HEALO" brand Ointment of exceptional value in the treatment of all skin troubles—Your Chemist will be able to supply you with a 1/3 or 3/- (3 times the size) tin, or post free from Dept. A. Curzon, Gerrard & Co., Ltd., Manufacturing Chemists, Oldbury, Birmingham.

HEALO OINTMENT

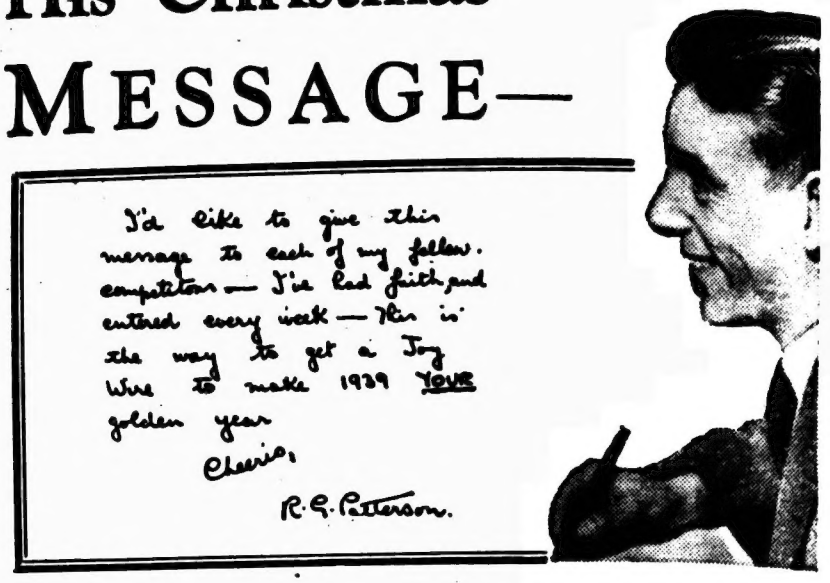
WAKE UP YOUR LIVER BILE

without Calomel—and you'll jump out of bed in the morning full of vim and vigour

The liver should pour out two pints of liquid bile into your bowels daily. If this bile is not flowing freely, your food doesn't digest. It just decays in the bowels. Gas bloats up your stomach. You get constipated. Your whole system is poisoned and you feel sour, sunk, and the world looks punk.

Laxatives help a little, but a mere bowel movement doesn't get at the cause. It takes those good old Carters Brand Little Liver Pills to get these two pints of bile flowing freely and make you feel "up and up." Harmless, gentle, yet amazing in making bile flow freely. Ask for Carters Brand Little Liver Pills. Stubbornly refuse anything else. 1/3 and 3/-

His Christmas MESSAGE—


I'd like to give this
message to each of my fellow-
competitors — I'm Red Faith and
entered every week — Here is
the way to get a Joy
Wire to make 1939 YOUR
golden year
Cheerio,
R. G. Patterson.

HELPS YOU TO WIN

OUR common hope to-day is for a care-free Christmas and a New Year of prosperity. This young JOHN BULL reader, with the pen you see in his hand, has made certain of both.

He is Mr. R. G Patterson, 30, Breck Road, Anfield, Liverpool, winner of the giant 10-in-1 Christmas First Prize in our 1,146th *Bullets* Contest. Using that pen, his head and a *Bullets* coupon he has won a Life Pension, £300 cheque and other seasonable presentations for the neat and human effort. WORLD OF HAPPINESS—MAKE-BELIEVE? MAKE BY LOVE!

"It gave me a tremendous thrill to know that I had attained my chief ambition and won a *Bullets* Life Pension," this big winner told a JOHN BULL man.

"I have been trying hard to secure one and reached seventh place in a Life Pension prize-list last summer. That Pension, you may remember, was won by a young Hove man who only entered occasionally and had never before won a cash prize."

* * *

For six years, Mr. Patterson added, he has made *Bullets* his hobby, with useful helpings from the prize-list as his reward. And at the moment the camera clicked for the photograph, on this page, he was writing his encouraging message to help you help yourself to a big *Bullets* prize in 1939.

The week before Mr. Patterson's success, our famous Friday message was flashed up to Scotland, to greet a young waitress when she reached her work at the café attached to the Orient Cinema, Ayr.

This was Miss Molly Boyd, 87, Gould Street, Ayr, entrant of the striking £250 *Bullet*. WAR-MONGERS—"VERMIN" NEVER NEAR TRENCHES.

"That telegram certainly gave me a start," Miss Boyd remarked. "This is a wonderful windfall for our home and will enable us to have a splendidly merry Christmas."

To capture a First Prize fortune with his fourth attempt at making *Bullets* was the thrilling experience of Mr. R. R. Neal, 26, Amersham Road, New Cross, in our 1,143rd Contest. With his first entry he won a "Good Shot" prize—and it was on one of its free coupons that this 29-year-old order clerk at Ford's Dagenham factory entered his telling *Bullet*. HONOURED NAME—"OUTSHONE" COMBINE'S NEON LIGHTS.

* * *

Look back at the simple words which brought the thrill of success to these typical competitors. You will realise that even if you make your very first *Bullet* to-day, there is no reason why *you* should not capture the seasonable big Pension-plus-Cash First Prize now waiting to be won.

RESULT OF COMPETITION No. 1,147

First Prize, £50 every Xmas for Life, plus Radiogram—or £250 Cash:

T. SHARP, 11, Empress Road, Loughborough, Leics.

Example: THE MILLIONAIRE BOSS
Bullet: WORKING FOR "MAN," NUFFIELD.

SECOND PRIZE, £25:

Mrs. H. RAYNER, 33, Green Street, Warrington.
Example: Popular Boss
Bullet: Only *Output* "Creeps Up."
(Entered on Prize coupon.)

THIRD PRIZE, £10:

Miss A. RENDER, 22, Milan Road, Ivedale.
Example: I'd Like Fight In
Bullet: Sonny—Not Sonny Fighting.

OTHER PRIZES:

£9: D. HARRISON, 34, Colenso Terrace, Leeds. Christmas—"Armistice"—And *Glad* Remembrance.

£8: Miss A. RICHARDSON, 139, Copenhagen Street, London, N. Arms Are Dear, But—Bulwarks Against Bully's Work.

£7: Mrs. H. E. TOFIELD, Ormesby, Norfolk. The Sword—Pitiless—Pity The Swordless!

£6: F. PATON, 2, Gosford Lane, Glasgow. Happy Home—"Built Round" Complete "Openness."

£5: L. V. SMEE, 16, Gledhow Park Drive, Leeds. Sword Of Poverty—Impels Strike—"Impales" Striker.

£4: F. W. SYKES, 2, Southall Crescent, Coseley, Staffs. Popular Boss—Commends, *Remembers*—Condemns, *Forgets*.
(Entered on Prize coupon.)

£3: WISE, 28, Dorchester Road, Weybridge. Who Loves Her—She Wonders, Scrubbing Ladder.

TEN OF £2 10s. EACH:

P. ANDERSON, 35, The Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea. Broken Man—She "Returned To Mother."
R. BARNETT, Flat 1, 116, Oakfield Road, Penge, S.E. Life I'd Like—Useful—Not Useless Failure.
A. DENT, 7, Lower East Avenue, Barnoldswick, Lancs. Arms Are Dear, But—"Bill" Written In Ink. (Entered on Prize coupon.)
D. D. LEWIS, Cookshop, Llechryd, Cardigan. Peace—"Babe" Abandoned—*Put Childhood* "Arrested."
A. G. SHADBOLT, 298, Crystal Palace Road, East Dulwich, S.E. His Future—Doesn't Worry Grandpa—Ex-stoker!
D. STARK, Church Street, Cheddar. The Millionaire—Bitter—*Dreams Beyond Riches.*
J. W. TAYLOR, The Bend, Minster Road, Westgate-on-Sea. Sonny—"Animal" Auntie *Doesn't* Understand.
J. VALENTINE, 97, Elwick Road, West Hartlepool. The Boss—Amiable—Then Foreman Lavish!
F. F. WORTH, 50, Romany Road, Northwood. To Sonny—"*Play* In Sun" Matters. (Entered on Prize coupon.)
D. T. WILKINS, 61, Upper Bristol Road, Weston-super-Mare. Her Money—"Comforter" Nephew *Cheerfully* Anticipates.

(N.B.—Competitors were permitted in this contest to use either the given Examples or others found in accordance with the special instructions announced.)

A list of 20 hamper, 30 Turkey, 40 Fowl and 60 Xmas Cake winners can be seen at these offices.

NEWSAGENTS' PRIZES.—Cheques of £10, £3 and £2 respectively will be paid to the newsagents from whom the chief winners in "Bullets" No. 1,151 usually purchase "John Bull."

The original cheque for £300 chosen by the First Prize Winner in Competition No. 1,146 will be displayed in the window of Mr. E. E. Pardoe, 66, Brook Road, Anfield, Liverpool.

FINE XMAS OPPORTUNITY for Grateful Bullets
NEW YEAR LIFE PENSION
Win
20/- WEEKLY for LIFE
PLUS
£100
CASH
OTHER "BULLETS" PRIZES
£25 £10
£9 £8 £7 £6 £5 £4 £3
10 PRIZES OF £2-10 EACH
200 DOUBLE Run-Away SURPRISE AWARDS
With THOUSANDS OF OTHER PRIZES
NEW YEAR BONUS AWARD value £2 WITH each cash PRIZE
300 GNS. WILL BE PAID IF WINNER PREFERS SINGLE PRIZE

Now Win Your Pension!

ACCEPT a steady income for the rest of your days, plus a fine lump sum immediately, in exchange for a few simple words neatly fitted to one of the *Examples* on this page!

That is "John Bull's" invitation now before you. Yes, enter the best effort for this contest and, a few days after Closing Date, a gay "Greetings" telegram will name you winner of 20s. Weekly for Life and £100 in solid cash.

Already 32 "Bulleteers" are revelling in the added security of a lifelong income from Long Acre. Here is your opportunity to become *Bullets* Life Pensioner No. 33.

Two housewives, a sawyer, an engineer, an unemployed plumber, an insurance man—such are the competitors who, by making up their minds to succeed, have captured Life Pensions this year. Whatever your occupation, whatever your age, there is no reason why yours should not be this Contest's Pension-plus-Cash prize.

This is your final big Pension Opportunity of 1938. See to it that before the bells are ringing in a New Year on December 31, your Life Income *Bullets* are safely in the post.

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS"

TO make a prize *Bullet*, simply take an *Example* and make a rough note of any idea is suggests. Then improve this to TWO, THREE or FOUR words of apt and original comment, closely linked with that particular *Example*.

For instance, against the *Example*, FLOOD OF ORATORY, you might jot down *Mustn't Spoil Prospects of Peace*. This you could easily improve to the typical *Bullet*, FLOOD OF ORATORY—MUSTN'T SWAMP PEACE "SHIP."

Study the leading *Bullets* in our 1,147th contest on opposite page and remember to post your entry by Saturday, December 31.

Add 2, 3, or 4 Words to any "Example"

JOB FOR 1939
GOVERNMENT LIFEBOAT
TO DEFEND BRITANNIA
EXPERIENCE TEACHES
WISDOM PREVAILED AND
MY LIFE
CRISIS IN OUR VILLAGE
FLOOD OF ORATORY
ENCOURAGING
WHEN OLD
GHOST OF THE PAST
SHE CALLED THEM CIGARS, BUT
LIKE POISON
IN THE MARRIAGE MARKET
WITHOUT STOPPING
THERE'S ROOM AT THE TOP, SO
SHOWED HER
IN THE STRUGGLE
WHEN HENPECK STRUCK
WHAT HE'S WAITING FOR
CRUSHED
MEANS BUSINESS
NOTHING TO DO
WHERE DAD WENT WRONG

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges in consultation with the Editor, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

2. Only two attempts may be written on each coupon and a postal order must be enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of. This must be made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed /& Co./. Entrant's name, address and date of posting must be written on back of postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

3. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry. Employees of Odhams Press Ltd. and their families are not eligible.

Save Money on Entries

With your *Bullets* entry you may now enclose Crossword entry, with single postal order sufficient to cover both entry-fees, thus saving 2½d. on poundage and postage.

Make postal order payable to JOHN BULL, address joint entry envelope "Bullets" No. 1,151 and Crossword No. 135, JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, marking it "B and C" in top left-hand corner.

ACCEPT THIS PRESENTATION OFFER!

"ALL through my successful *Bullets* career, *Bullets Bulletin* has been at my side. Its help has been invaluable—in fact, it is almost as necessary as a coupon to write on!"

Those are the words of Mr. R. G. Patterson, our latest Pension winner, whose story appears on opposite page. And his words are echoed by another young man whom this bright little weekly has recently helped to capture an income for life.

"I attribute my big success entirely to the free guidance of *Bullets Bulletin*," declared this winner of 20s. Weekly for Life in our 1,144th Contest—Mr. A. G. J. Pearce, "Rus-in-Urbe," Malpas Road, Newport, Mon.

To celebrate the New Year, a special *Bulletin* Gift Offer has been planned. Your acceptance means that for six weeks you will receive free and post free a regular copy of the helpful and practical guide to Competition success which has carried scores of its readers to the top of the prize-list.

The *Bulletin* Presentation Supply becomes yours by merely enclosing Gift Voucher on this page with two or more 6d. coupons for the fine *Bullets* Offer now awaiting your entry. This new Presentation Opportunity is yours only until the last day of 1938—accept it whilst there is time!

EXAMPLE
BULLET
EXAMPLE
BULLET

(1,151) P.O. No. .....
Closing postmark SAT., Dec. 31.
I agree to enter in accordance with the rules announced on this page. With 1 Coupon send P.O. for 6d.
Signed .....
Address .....

EXAMPLE
BULLET
EXAMPLE
BULLET

(1,151) P.O. No. .....
Closing postmark SAT., Dec. 31.
I agree to enter in accordance with the rules announced on this page. With 2 Coupons send P.O. for 1s.
Signed .....
Address .....

EXAMPLE
BULLET
EXAMPLE
BULLET

(1,151) P.O. No. .....
Closing postmark SAT., Dec. 31.
I agree to enter in accordance with the rules announced on this page. With 3 Coupons send P.O. for 1s. 6d.
Signed .....
Address .....

FREE COUPON FOR THIS COMPETITION IF USED AS INSTRUCTED BELOW

EXAMPLE
BULLET
EXAMPLE
BULLET

FREE PRIVILEGE ENTRY
I enclose **TWO** or more paid (or prize) coupons for Bullets No. 1,151, all entered in same name and address, entitling me to this coupon FREE.
Signed .....
Address .....

Should you wish to enter further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper.

Address Entry: "Bullets" No. 1,151, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2 (Comp)

Free "Bulletin" Gift Voucher

(Available only if enclosed with 2 or more coupons for "Bullets" No. 1,151)

I enclose ..... paid 6d. entries (NOT LESS THAN 2) with necessary entry-fee for "Bullets" No. 1,151—please arrange 6 weeks "Bulletin" Gift Supply

SIGNED .....
ADDRESS .....
BLOCK LETTERS .....

N.B.—If already registered for regular "Bulletin" supply, MARK X HERE ☐

Here's A Happy Christmas to All

Don't Forget A Nightly Dose of

BILE BEANS BRAND PILLS

Will Keep You Healthy & Happy During the Festive Season

PURELY VEGETABLE
Sold Everywhere

—and you need not be afraid of putting on extra weight.

J.B.L.50 37★

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B154 A315 J.B. 17-12-38